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NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE LOCAL PLAN (2020-2038) EXAMINATION

MINERALS TOPIC PAPER

APRIL 2024

North Lincolnshire Council

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Contents

1. Introduction

1.1 This Topic Paper has been produced at the request of the Inspectors examining the North Lincolnshire Local Plan. The Local Plan was submitted for examination on 11th November, 2022. This followed three 'regulation 18' consultations in 2017, 2018 and 2020, and two 'regulation 19' consultations- both in 2022. Since then, the Council has answered an extensive list of initial Inspectors questions. This was then followed up with an Exploratory Meeting on 23rd January 2024 to discuss procedural matters.

1.2 The overall purpose of this document is to provide a summary of the evidence base and consultation responses and how these have been used to inform and explain the development of a minerals strategy and policies. It consolidates information drawing on responses to the Inspectors Initial Questions and is intended to aid participants at hearings and allow reference to it in response to the Inspectors' matters, issues and question in due course.

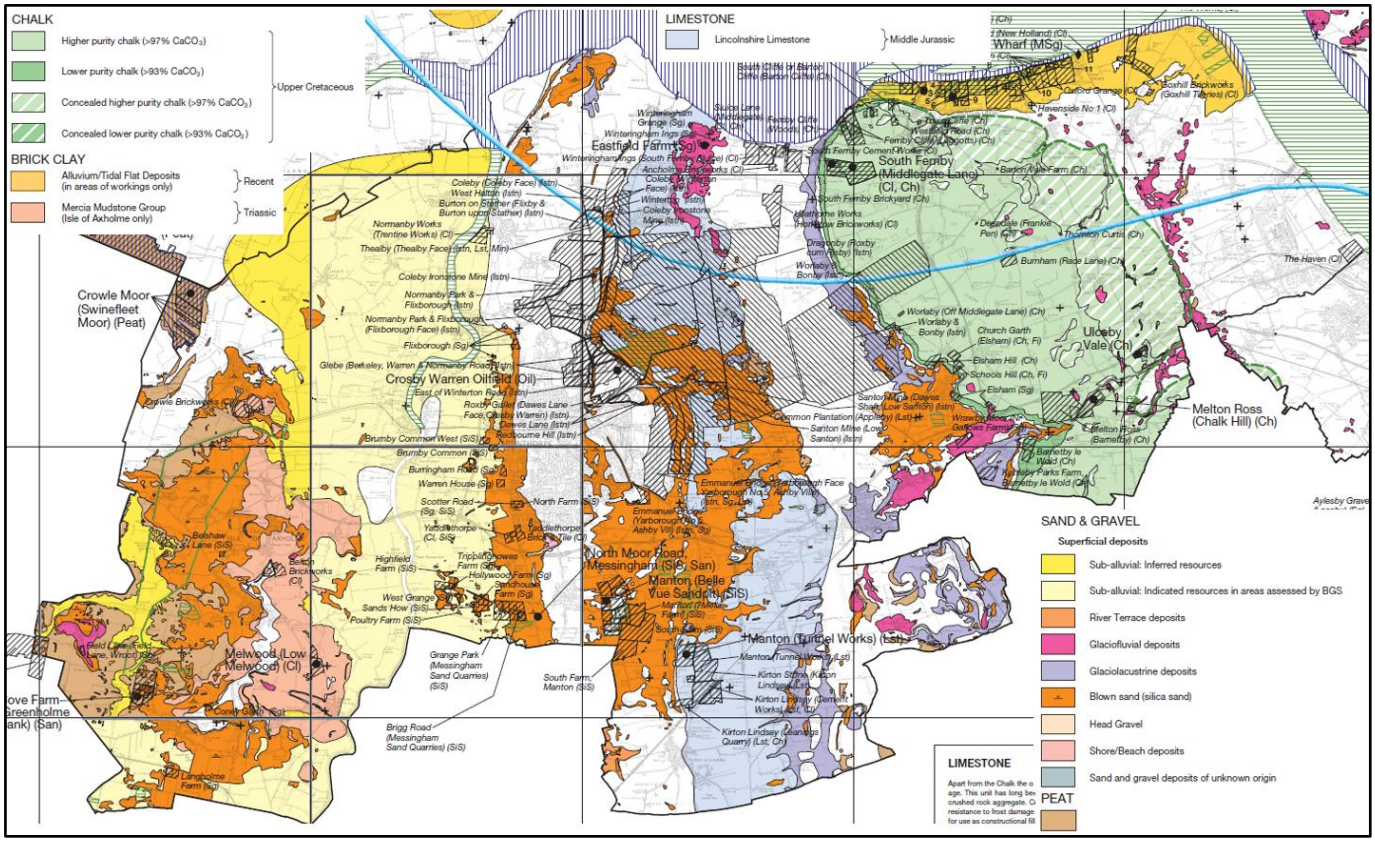
2. Local Geological Context

2.1 North Lincolnshire's mineral resources are a reflection of its geological, economic and social history. The solid geology of North Lincolnshire is relatively simple, consisting almost entirely of Jurassic and Cretaceous rocks that dip regularly eastwards in continuous belts from north to south. The topography presents a correspondingly simple and regular arrangement, the limestone and chalk standing out as the west facing escarpments of the Lincolnshire Wolds and the Lincoln Edge, separated by valleys underlain by Jurassic clays.

2.2 Exposures of the solid geology in the area occur mainly in the upland areas of the Lincolnshire Wolds and around the Scunthorpe area. The remainder of the area is overlain extensively with drift deposits consisting mainly of alluvium, peat, blown sands and boulder clay. Chalk of the Upper Cretaceous period underlies much of the area to the east and outcrops of Jurassic limestone occur to the south of Scunthorpe. To the north are outcrops of the Frodingham Ironstone. Further west in the Trent Valley layers of Quaternary deposits are underlain by Mercia Mudstone. Blown sands are found in the areas around Messingham and Manton.

2.3 Much of the solid rock of North Lincolnshire is however overlain by glacial deposits of boulder clays, sands and gravels that add complexity to the overall picture and contribute to local variation in landscape character. Extensive deposits of sands and gravels, so called coversands, which derive from Bunter Sandstones further west beyond the Trent, have been blown in an easterly direction across the landscape to build up against the west facing escarpments and the area of Mercia Mudstones that forms the Isle of Axholme. To the north, the Humber has cut through the Cretaceous and Jurassic rock and has overlain the estuarine landscape with alluvial deposits.

2.4 BGS Mineral Resource Information in Support of National, Regional and Local Planning (2005) is shown on the map below.



3. Minerals of Current or Potential Future Economic Importance

3.1 As seen above, the area has a number of minerals, which play an important role in meeting the economy's needs. Specifically, these include:

Aggregate Minerals:

3.2 Aggregate minerals are defined as those used in the building and construction industries and are an essential resource for built development and other construction and infrastructure projects. This includes asphalt and other roadstone, concrete, building sand, gravels, rail ballast and fill materials.

Sand and Gravel

3.3 The sand and gravel extracted in North Lincolnshire is primarily used for the construction sector and is sold into the local market. Sand and gravel extraction takes place in two locations in North Lincolnshire – Cove Farm (near Westwoodside) and Kettleby Parks Quarry (near Brigg). The Cove Farm site extracts blown sand and river terrace deposits, whilst Kettleby Parks extracts glaciolacustine deposits.

Limestone

3.4 This is worked for crushed rock aggregate and building stone. Crushed Lincolnshire Limestone provides aggregates that are of relatively low strength and with poor resistance to frost damage. This lower quality has meant that it has generally been suitable for use as construction fill or as a sub base roadstone material. It is currently worked at two quarries within North Lincolnshire - Manton and Slate House Farm (also known as Hibaldstow Quarry). There are reserves at a third quarry- Kirton Lindsey, however this site is inactive currently.

Chalk

3.5 The properties of chalk in the area ensures it is of value as an aggregate, albeit for less demanding applications such as fill and sub-base roadstone. Large-scale extraction takes place at Melton Ross and South Ferriby (Middlegate Lane). Aggregate chalk is only currently extracted at Melton Ross quarry, adjacent to the Singleton Birch lime plant. Whilst the South Ferriby Quarry operated by Cemex has reserves, this site is currently mothballed.

Non-Aggregate Minerals:

3.6 Non-aggregate minerals are necessary to support industrial and manufacturing processes and other non-aggregate uses.

Silica Sand

3.7 Blown silica sand deposits contain a high proportion of silica in the form of quartz and therefore have important industrial uses. They are essential raw materials for the glass and foundry castings industries, but also have a wide range of other industrial applications, including in ceramics and chemicals manufacture, for water filtration media and in sports and horticultural applications. Silica sand production is based on the blown sand deposits around Messingham.

Industrial Chalk

3.8 Chalk is extracted for a range of industrial purposes such as lime production, steel manufacture, cement manufacture, chalk whiting and for constructional purposes as well as agricultural use. Industrial chalk is extracted alongside aggregate at Melton Ross.

Brick Clay

3.9 Clay has traditionally been used for the manufacture of bricks and roof tiles. In the Isle of Axholme, the clay resource has been exploited on a large scale for brick making near Epworth (Low Melwood). Until the early 2000's a brickworks operated in the Belton area. Following its closure, smaller amounts of clay was transported to another facility in the North East of England. The Low Melwood site has ceased production a number of years ago. Of the clay present along the Humber Estuary, much of this used in the manufacture of roof tiles. Tile works are situated in this area, with a number of working and redundant clay pits. Clay is currently only extracted on land north of South Marsh Farm, Victory Way to the west of Barton. This serves the William Blyth tile works at Hoe Hill.

Ironstone

3.10 Ironstone is a fine grained, heavy sedimentary rock that traditionally formed the basis of iron and steel making. The discovery of Frodingham Ironstone in the 19th century led to the establishment of the local iron and steel industry. Extraction began in 1859 and was by both surface and underground mining. Extraction ceased in the late 1980's. Technological and economic changes within the UK iron and steel industry have led to the demise of the sedimentary ironstones as a source of iron ore and it is unlikely that the ironstones of the region will have any future commercial value.

Hydrocarbons (oil and gas)

3.11 Oil and gas (also known as 'hydrocarbons') are primary sources of energy and have a vital role in the UK economy. Government policy is to ensure that the country has a secure and diverse supply of energy sources, including the use of indigenous hydrocarbons from conventional and unconventional sources. The majority of oil and gas in the UK originates off-shore, for example in the North Sea, however some does come from on-shore extraction. Conventional oil and gas are located in relatively porous rock formations such as limestone and sandstone. Unconventional oil and gas resources are found in fine-grained sedimentary rocks known as shales and tend to be trapped at greater depths. North Lincolnshire is located at the northern end of the East Midlands Oil Province, which has a long history on-shore oil extraction, in particular in Lincolnshire. Oil reserves have been found in the Scunthorpe, Broughton and Brigg areas.

Historic Sources of Building Stone

3.12 A Strategic Stone Study undertaken by English Heritage in 2004 has identified six former quarries which provided significant building stone used to maintain and repair historic buildings within the plan area. Three involve chalk at Bonby Lodge Stone Pit, Manor Farm Stone Pit and Worlaby. Two involve limestone at Hibaldstow and Slate House Quarry. One involves Ironstone at Frodingham.

4. Need/demand/requirement for each mineral in the plan area and how this is met

Aggregate Minerals:

Sand and Gravel

4.1 Paragraph 215 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states 'it is essential that there is a sufficient supply of minerals to provide the infrastructure, buildings, energy and goods that the country needs'. Paragraph 219 requires that Minerals Planning Authorities (MPAs) should plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates by forecasting future demand, based on a rolling average of 10 years' sales data and other relevant local information and making provision for the land-won and other elements in their mineral plans, maintaining landbanks of at least 7 years for sand and gravel.

4.2 It was agreed through work on the Humber Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA), that separate approaches for the East Riding/Hull and North Lincolnshire/ North East Lincolnshire areas would be taken due to there being largely separate markets for aggregates with varying characteristics on each side of the Humber Estuary (north and south), including different export markets, and the cost of transporting aggregates across the Humber Bridge. The main source of information on aggregate supply and demand is the Humber LAA.

4.3 To support the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) and meet the requirements of the NPPF, there is a need to understand and set out the average amount, or apportionment, of aggregates that the area needs to provide for on an annual basis, as well as over the lifetime of the plan. The Council produced a Minerals Apportionment Background Paper to do this. This is similar to the approach which was adopted by East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Hull City Council to support their Joint Minerals Local Plan.

4.4 The Paper discusses a range of issues, such as: national guidelines for aggregates supply; cross boundary movements; infrastructure projects; secondary and recycled aggregates; past sales rates; and linkages of aggregate sales to house building, economic performance, and population. It then establishes an annual amount of primary sand and gravel aggregate the North Lincolnshire Local Plan should plan for as: **0.13 million tonnes per annum**.

4.5 This is based on a methodology using past aggregate sales rates, mainly due to:

- National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), which states that MPAs should look at the rolling average sales data over the past 10 years with consideration of other local information that seeks to look ahead at possible future demand. Average sales over the past 3 years should also be considered to identify the general trend of demand as part of the consideration of whether it might be appropriate to increase supply (PPG ID: 27-064-20140306).
- Alignment with the sales-based methodology employed in the East Riding and Hull Joint Minerals Plan, which was examined and found to be acceptable by the Planning Inspectorate.
- The general correlation between demand for aggregates, and more specifically sand and gravel, and housebuilding, but the less obvious trend in terms of all construction activity, nor overall in GVA analysis to compare economic activity with aggregate demand.

4.6 Sales data from the past 10 years and 3 years were observed. Due to the considerable growth in sales since 2018, past 3-year sales data was also observed for reference. Noting the correlation to housebuilding and the variation in terms of the latest sales data for sand and gravel reserves (2018), forecasting future reserves has been based on the 10 year sales data. An uplift has been added that is aligned to the predicted growth in housing set out in the emerging Local Plan (396 dwellings per annum). Average housing delivery over the last 10 years is 368 homes per year, so an uplift of 7.5% was necessary to deliver the annual Local Plan housing requirement. This recognises the large variation between the 3 year and 10 year average figures, but also considers the recent increase in the annual data and impacts of housing growth on aggregates.

4.7 The amount of resource required over the Plan period and how this is proposed to be met is shown in the table below:

Sand and Gravel Aggregate		
A: Annual Apportionment	0.13 million tonnes (mt)	
B: Plan Period	18 years (2020/21 to 2037/38)	
C: Resources to be found (A x B)	2.34mt	
D: Sales (2020 to 2022 inc)	0.47mt	Note: These sales are estimated due to commercial confidentiality.
E: Landbank at end of 2022	0.75mt	Note: These reserves are estimated due to commercial confidentiality.
F: Residual resources to be found [C – (D + E)]	1.12mt	
G: Allocation MIN6-15 Resources	0.7mt	
H: Amount of resources not accommodated (F-G)	0.42mt	Note: The amount of resources to be found would be minimal had the real sales figures at (D) been reported.

4.8 The following existing sites are anticipated to continue to contribute towards supply into the Plan period:

- Allocation MIN6-1: Cove Farm, Westwoodside- no or unknown end date to permission
- Allocation MIN6-2: Kettleby Parks Quarry- 21/2/42 permission end date

4.9 The aggregate quarries listed are monitored annually through the Yorkshire and Humber Aggregate Working Party (YHAWP) Annual Monitoring Survey. The reserves left within each of these individual sites is commercially confidential and information provided to us through the surveys was provided to us on that basis. However collectively, the reserves estimated to be left within them was 0.75 million tonnes as of the end of 2022. Due to these being the only aggregate sand and gravel operators feeding into the surveys for the monitoring period, estimates of sales and reserves have had to be made to ensure commercial confidentiality. These estimates were based on the average percentage of Humber sales and reserves attributed to North Lincolnshire over a representative period of time.

4.10 The following new site is anticipated to contribute 0.7mt to the aggregate reserve over the plan period:

- Allocation MIN6-15: Cove Farm, Westwoodside (Extension)

Crushed Rock

4.11 Paragraph 215 of the NPPF applies to crushed rock too, but the requirement is to maintain a landbank of at least 10 years. Here, both chalk and limestone crushed rock present in North Lincolnshire are combined into a single landbank as they are both similar in their quality and application. They are not sufficiently specific in their type, quality or market served to justify maintaining separate landbanks. Furthermore, as there are only four crushed rock operators in the area, a calculation of separate landbanks would risk a breach of commercial confidentiality.

4.12 The Council's Minerals Apportionment Background Paper discusses a range of issues, such as: national guidelines for aggregates supply; cross boundary movements; infrastructure projects; secondary and recycled aggregates; past sales rates; and linkages of aggregate sales to house building, economic performance and population. It then establishes an annual amount of primary crushed rock aggregate the North Lincolnshire Local Plan should plan for as: **0.65 million tonnes per annum**.

4.13 This is based on a methodology using past aggregate sales rates, mainly due to:

- NPPG, which states that MPAs should look at the rolling average sales data over the past 10 years with consideration of other local information that seeks to look ahead at possible future demand. Average sales over the past 3 years should also be considered to identify the general trend of demand as part of the consideration of whether it might be appropriate to increase supply (PPG ID: 27-064-20140306).
- Alignment with the sales-based methodology employed in the East Riding and Hull Joint Minerals Plan, which was examined and found to be acceptable by the Planning Inspectorate.
- There isn't a notable correlation between crushed rock sales and house building, which is likely to reflect the fact that its main use is as roadstone for road construction, with some use in producing concrete. There isn't a correlation with all construction activity, nor overall in GVA analysis to compare economic activity with crushed rock aggregate demand in the area either.

4.14 As there has been a relatively steady trend in crushed rock sales since 2014, the 3 year average figure for sales seems to reflect this position more closely that the longer term data over 10 years. It therefore seemed appropriate to use the 3 year average figure for crushed rock, in line with NPPG and the data available. It is also difficult to determine the impact of planned infrastructure and construction growth within the area, as has been noted in the Humber LAA and Hull and East Riding's evidence, given the lack of a strong correlation in historical data for the area.

4.15 The amount of resource required over the Plan period and how this is proposed to be met is shown in the table below:

Crushed Rock Aggregate		
A: Annual Apportionment	0.65 million tonnes (mt)	
B: Plan Period	18 years (2020/21 to 2037/38)	
C: Resources to be found (A x B)	11.70mt	
D: Sales (2020 to 2022 inc)	1.88mt	
E: Landbank at end of 2022	45.24mt	
F: Residual resources to be found [C – (D + E)]	0mt	Note: There is currently an excess of 35.42mt in reserves against the resources required over the Plan

4.16 The following existing sites are anticipated to continue to contribute towards supply into the Plan period:

- Allocation MIN6-4: South Ferriby Quarry- 2042 end date to permission
- Allocation MIN6-5: Hibaldstow Quarry- 2024 end date to permission
- Allocation MIN6-6: Manton Quarry- 24/2/42 end date to permission
- Allocation MIN6-7: Kirton Quarry- 2037 end date to permission
- Allocation MIN6-14: Hibaldstow Quarry (Extension)- 14/5/39 end date to permission

4.17 The aggregate quarries listed are monitored annually through the Yorkshire and Humber Aggregate Working Party (YHAWP) Annual Monitoring Survey. The reserves left within each of these individual sites is commercially confidential and information provided to us through the surveys was provided to us on that basis. However collectively, the reserves reported to be left within them was 45.24 million tonnes as of the end of 2022.

Non-Aggregate Minerals:

4.18 Silica sand and brick clay are the only non-aggregate (or industrial) mineral operations present in North Lincolnshire, which potentially require provision of a landbank against the NPPF/NPPG. There is a chalk cement works at South Ferriby, however this has been mothballed. It remains under review, and North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) continue to monitor the status of the site annually.

Silica Sand

4.19 The NPPF requires that MPAs should plan for a steady and adequate supply of industrial minerals by maintaining a stock of permitted reserves to support the level of actual and proposed investment required for new or existing plant, and the maintenance and improvement of existing plant and equipment (amongst other things). It states that these reserves should be at least 10 years for individual silica sand sites.

4.20 The NPPG clarifies that this is carried out through the development management process when a relevant planning application is submitted, rather than necessarily through the Local Plan. NPPG[1] states that 'stocks of permitted reserves should be calculated when a planning application is submitted to extract the mineral (through either a site extension or a new site) or when new capital investment is proposed. The overall amount required should be directly linked to the scale of capital investment to construct and operate the required facility (such as a cement plant or brick factory).'

4.21 Neither a planning application, nor new capital investment has been proposed as part of, or in relation to the Local Plan.

4.22 Notwithstanding the above, Sibelco have a large silica sand operation close to Messingham. Based on the sales and reserves reported through the annual aggregates survey it has a landbank of around 3.92 years for their site. Clearly, exact details of sales and reserves are commercially confidential and cannot be stated for individual operators. The landbank above falls below the 10 years advised for individual silica sand sites in the NPPF. However, Policy MIN6 proposes allocation MIN6-16: Land at Holme Lane, as an additional silica sand site nearby. This covers an area of 118ha and with the BGS Humberside Mineral Resource Information indicating that silica sand working around Messingham has focussed on the top 2 metres above the water table. Alongside a notional 10% reduction of area lost to landscaping and infrastructure, it can be assumed there could be a volume of 2,124,000m^3 of resource to be extracted. At a weight per m^3 of 1,538kg, it can be estimated there would be 3,266,712,000kg or 3.22 million imperial tonnes or resource available- more than enough to result in reserves of well over 10 years based on recent sales rates.

[1] Paragraph: 088 Reference ID: 27-088-20140306

4.23 The entire silica sand deposit in the area is safeguarded through policy MIN-2. If further resources are needed then policy MIN3 would be used to assess proposals as well as policy MIN6, which allocates the following existing sites, and new site.

- Allocation MIN6-9: Messingham Quarry – no or unknown end date to permission
- Allocation MIN6-13: Land north of Brigg Road, Messingham – no or unknown end date to permission
- Allocation MIN6-16: Land at Holme Lane (New Site) – no planning permission as yet

Brick Clay

4.24 NPPF states that these reserves should be at least 25 years for brick clay sites. Again, the NPPG clarifies that this is carried out through the development management process when a relevant planning application is submitted, rather than necessarily through the Local Plan.

4.25 William Blyth operates tile works in Barton and owns two clay abstraction sites. In terms of reserves at each, Hoe Hill- the site where clay is currently extracted, has 7-10 years of landbank and Far Ings circa 20 years. Far Ings has not been worked for a long time. Together, these two sites provide tile works with a landbank of over 25 years. Low Melwood Quarry, near Epworth has not been worked for some time and, according to its owners, will only be so as and when any ad hoc demand materialises for the brick clay resources there.

4.26 The entire brick clay deposit in the area is safeguarded through policy MIN2. If further resources are needed then policy MIN3 would be used to assess proposals as well as policy MIN6, which allocates the following existing site.

- Allocation MIN6-8: Barton East- no or unknown end date to permission

Recycled and Secondary Aggregates

4.27 The NPPF requires that so far as practicable, account is taken of the contribution that substitute or secondary and recycled materials and minerals waste would make to the supply of materials, before considering extraction of primary materials, whilst aiming to source minerals supplies indigenously.

4.28 Policy MIN4: Recycled and Secondary Aggregates, supports proposals for secondary and recycled aggregate facilities to reduce the reliance on primary aggregates and contribute towards sustainable development. However, we would point to Statistics in 'Table 8: Recovery rate from non-hazardous construction and demolition waste, England, 2010–2020 (million tonnes and % rate)' set out in 'UK statistics on waste, updated 11 May 2022', which is replicated below:

Year	Generation	Recovery	Recovery rate
2010	53.6	49.4	92.2%
2011	54.9	50.8	92.5%
2012	50.5	46.4	92.0%
2013	51.7	47.6	92.0%
2014	55.9	51.7	92.4%
2015	57.7	53.3	92.3%
2016	59.6	55.0	92.1%
2017	62.2	57.9	93.1%

2018	61.4	57.5	93.8%
2019	62.3	58.3	93.6%
2020	53.6	50.0	93.2%

4.29 This reports that construction and demolition waste recycling rates in England are already over 90% and this means that what goes into landfill or on land is largely Excavation Waste, which cannot be processed further. Moreover, in the industry's view the scope for further increases in recycling rates for construction and demolition waste into aggregates must be marginal.

4.30 Information from the Mineral Products Association (MPA) shows that in 2018 recycled and secondary materials accounted for 28% of total aggregates supply in Great Britain. This is the highest in Europe and has been levelling off following a peak around 2009. Despite the significant financial advantages of recycling waste into aggregates, the unavailability of further sources of unprocessed raw materials is hampering further increases in market share.

4.31 In practice, despite encouragement for further increases, there is little further progress that can be made in replacing primary aggregate with secondary and recycled materials without major investment in the few remaining significant sources of secondary aggregates in North Wales and Cornwall, which in any event would not affect the Humber sub region. Consequently, other than the inclusion of Policy MIN4, there is little more the Local Plan can do in a practical sense as a strategy to increase the use of recycled and secondary aggregates.

Marine Aggregates

4.32 The NPPF does not require a strategy for marine aggregates- just an assessment of all aggregate supply options (including marine dredged, secondary, and recycled sources) is made when the LAA forecasts future demand. There is little the Local Plan can do to influence the supply of marine aggregates either, other than safeguard existing wharfs and associated rail sidings, which are used to land and transport marine aggregates now (or potentially do so in future), from competing uses.

4.33 The Humber Area Local Aggregate Assessment (MIN01) looks at where marine aggregates are landed in the area. It states (paras 4.32 to 4.64):

> *'The majority of landings that took place on the Humber were at the relocated Humber Sand and Gravel facility at King George Dock in Hull. Stema Shipping brings imports of crushed rock aggregates from their coastal quarries in Norway, and sand from Denmark to Queen Elizabeth Dock…... The landing facility at King George Dock, can take bigger vessels than the previous facility at Alexandra Dock and is large enough to land 2 million tonnes per year. It also has the advantage of being connected to the rail network, which has the potential of improved distribution to the wider region.*
>
> *There are other opportunities for landing marine dredged aggregates within the Humber area. ABP also owns the port of Goole, whilst there are wharves on the River Trent near Scunthorpe which can be accessed by similar sized vessels to Goole. The River Trent wharves and New Holland Pier are equipped to handle mineral imports. However, it is not possible to ascertain the amount of minerals landed at these locations. It is likely that they only handle them on an "as and when" basis.*
>
> *The ports of Grimsby and Immingham currently do not handle marine dredged aggregates on a regular basis, other than specific project related short term campaigns, however the capacity is available should there be a future requirement'*

4.34 There aren't any ports/wharfs in North Lincolnshire that handle aggregates on a regular basis. However, Policy EC5: Wharves, supports proposals for new or extended port, wharf and jetty

facilities on the Rivers Humber and Trent. It also safeguards existing wharf and jetty facilities on the Rivers Humber and Trent for cargo handling facilities. Policy T6: Freight, safeguards the existing network of rail freight routes and infrastructure. In essence, the above is the Plan strategy for marine aggregates.

4.35 Permitting and planning for marine aggregate extraction is the responsibility of the Marine Management Organisation (MMO). The MMO has prepared its East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans that provide the planning framework[2]. Meanwhile, the Crown Estate's Marine Aggregates Capability and Portfolio 2021[3] states that current estimates suggest there are 22 years of primary marine aggregate production permitted in the Humber region of the North Sea- enough to last beyond the Local Plan period to 2038.

5. Minerals Site Selection

5.1 The North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) needed to allocate suitable sites or areas for mineral extraction to meet assessed demands. Accordingly, it has been necessary to identify and assess potential mineral sites and, from a list of potential options, select those most suitable for allocation.

5.2 This section sets out how potential mineral sites have been identified and assessed as part of the Local Plan process. The methodology also provides the steps that were carried out to gather robust evidence to inform the selection of allocations.

5.3 As part of the early stages of the Local Plan preparation, a Call for Sites exercise was undertaken between February and April 2017. Of the submissions received, 10 sites were proposed for mineral extraction (see table below). A further Call for Sites exercise took place at the Issues & Options stage (January to March 2016), with three sites being proposed (see second table below)[4].

Table : Site Proposed for Mineral Extraction – Initial (Regulation) Consultation (2017)		
Call for Sites Reference	**Proposed Site**	**Proposed Use**
10ZQM	Land south of A1077, to the west of South Ferriby cement works.	Site Allocation – Clay
4ZTO3	Land extending to approximately 15ha. lying to the north and west of Hibaldstow Quarry, off Redbourne Road, Hibaldstow	Site Allocation – Limestone (Extension to existing quarry)
8KZE3	Land off Middlegate Lane, South Ferriby	Site Allocation – Chalk
ABSRS	Land to the north of Composition Lane, Winteringham.	Site Allocation – Silica Sand
JUCBG	Ellerholme Farm, Wroot Road, Finningley, Doncaster	Site Allocation – Sand & Gravel
KFZWG	Hibaldstow Quarry, Hibaldstow	Site Allocation – Limestone (Extension to existing quarry)
OZYUA	Land to the south of Composition Lane and East of Ermine Street, Winteringham, DN15 9LZ	Site Allocation – Silica Sand
RZARY	Land to the east of Holme Lane, Nr Scunthorpe	Site Allocation – Industrial Silica Sand
TEQPK	Land south of A1077, Eastfield Farm, Winteringham, DN15 9LZ	Site Allocation – Silica Sand
YMNEY	Land at Northmoor Road / Butterwick Crossroads (Catchwater Crossroads)*	Site Allocation – Silica Sand

* Minerals extraction was third proposed use for this site. The other proposed uses were Residential (Market Housing) and Sport/Leisure

[2] East Inshore and East Offshore Marine Plans (publishing.service.gov.uk) accessed on 22/5/23
[3] 2021-capability-portfolio-report.pdf (thecrownestate.co.uk) accessed on 22/5/23
[4] North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments, July 2018, p.4

Table: Site Proposed for Mineral Extraction – Issues & Options Consultation (2018)		
Call for Sites Reference	**Proposed Site**	**Proposed Use**
IY2AN	Land North of Brigg Road, nr Messingham DN21 4JX	Site Allocation – Silica Sand
DJ3RK	Land at Greetwell North	Site Allocation – Silica Sand
4LG95	Land off High Levels Bank, Belton, Scunthorpe, DN17 BP*	Site Allocation – no mineral specified

* Minerals extraction was third proposed use for this site. The other proposed uses were Residential (Market Housing) and Sport/Leisure

5.4 Additionally, the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (May 2003) identified and safeguarded a number of sites/areas for future mineral extraction in order to contribute towards supply of sand and gravel, silica sand and brick clay. However, no areas were identified for crushed rock (see table below).

Table : Sites Identified in 2003 Local Plan for Mineral Extraction		
NLLP Policy Reference	**Site Name/Location**	**Mineral**
M12-1	Land west of Willow Holt Farm, Fiixborough	Sand & Gravel
M12-2	Land at Cove Farm, Haxey	Sand & Gravel
M15-1	Land adjacent to and east of Barrow Tileries, Barrow upon Humber	Clay
M15-2	Land adjacent to and north of Far Ings Road, Barton upon Humber	Clay
M15-3	Land north of South Marsh Farm, east of Falkland Way, Barton upon Humber	Clay
M15-4	Land west of Low Melwood Farm, adjacent to C204, between Epworth & Owston Ferry	Clay
M19-1	Land adjacent to North Moor Road, Messingham	Silica Sand
M19-2	East of Scallow Grove, Messingham	Silica Sand
M19-3	Land adjacent/west of the Lincoln Edge, north west of Manton	Silica Sand
M19-4	Land at Black Nook Wood	Silica Sand
IG9	Ironstone Extraction (East & North of Scunthorpe)	Ironstone
IG10	Crosby Warren*	Oil Extraction

5.5 As set out in the *Mineral Sites Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments* paper, published in July 2018, a draft version of the Site Selection Methodology was circulated for comment to a range of selected stakeholders. This included mineral sites owner and operators in North Lincolnshire, those who put forward sites for consideration as part of the Call for Sites exercise (February to April 2017) and statutory bodies. In total 12 responses were received, the majority of whom supported the methodology. A number of specific comments were made regarding the proposed scoring system and how it would be used in decision making. Furthermore, there was concern that the proposed scoring mechanism may result in suitable sites being excluded due to anomalies arising from this mechanism. Based on these comments it was decided to re-examine the use of a scoring/ranking system and revise the site assessment form. This approach allowed for all relevant information on a site to be clearly set out and considered, and for professional judgement to be used in selecting preferred sites for minerals.

5.6 The site selection/assessment methodology was detailed in the *Mineral Sites Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments* paper. This states that the suitability of a site is influenced by national planning policy, local planning policy and other factors including physical constraints

affecting the site, the impacts of the development of the site, the proposed use and location and the impact on amenity and environment of neighbouring areas.[5]

5.7 The site selection methodology that has been used to assess suitable sites is detailed in the figure below. In short, the sites have been assessed using a five-stage process:

- Stage One: Desktop site assessment against a set of absolute constraints including site availability, resources and potential impact on designations.
- Stage Two: Detailed site suitability assessment against a set of broad discretionary criteria. This will include further consultation with relevant specialists within the Council.
- Stage Three: Internal review of assessments.
- Stage Four: Review of landbank and resource requirements through update of Local Aggregate Assessment using 2016 sales and reserve data, where available.
- Stage Five: Final report on outcome of assessment and recommendations for site allocation.

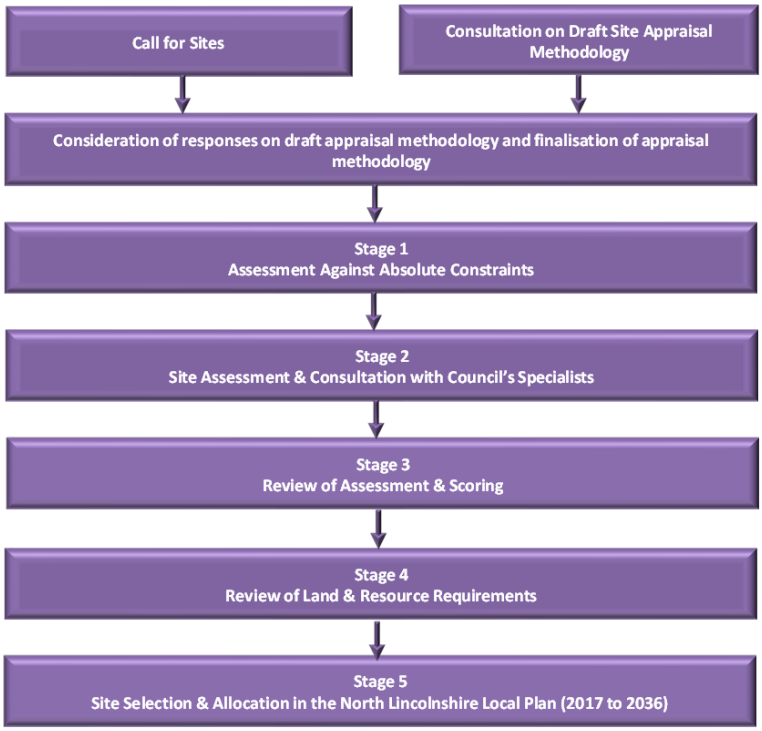


Figure: Proposed Site Appraisal and Selection Methodology

5.8 Stage one of the process involved assessing a particular site against a range of absolute constraints. Therefore, for a site to be considered beyond this initial stage, a number of criteria had to be met. This allowed for sites which were unsuitable to be removed early on in the process. The *Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments* paper sets out that when allocating sites it is essential that they are available and deliverable. It must be proven that the resource is capable of contributing to the provision of a steady and adequate supply of aggregate and industrial minerals during the Plan period (2020 – 2038).[6] Furthermore, to aid the understanding of whether a site is likely to be delivered it is necessary to know whether there is an agreement in place between the proposer and the landowner (if different) for mineral development on the site. Additionally, a commitment or indication is required from industry that the site is likely to be brought forward during the plan period.

[5] North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments, July 2018, p.5
[6] North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments, July 2018, p.7

5.9 The list of absolute constraints, as listed below, were considered as part of the stage one process. This stage of the process operated on a 'yes/no' basis:

1. Is the site available and deliverable within the Plan period (2017 – 2036)
2. Is there sufficient evidence of the availability of the resource i.e. is the site likely to contain a viable resource which could contribute to future minerals resources requirements?
3. Is the site in or adjacent to and/or likely to impact on internationally designated sites (Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, RAMSAR sites)?
4. Is the site in or adjacent a Site(s) of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)?
5. Does the site include a site or building with a nationally recognised designation (Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings grade 1 and 2* & 2, and Registered Parks and Gardens)?
6. Is the site within the functional floodplain (Flood Zone 3b)
7. Is the site located within Ancient Woodland?
8. Is the site allocated in Development Plans for other land uses (e.g. housing, tourism, recreation etc.)

5.10 If the development of the site was viewed as likely giving rise to significant adverse impacts on any of the criteria listed above, it was not taken forward for consideration at stage two. Conversely, if a site scored green against all of the criteria it was automatically carried forward for consideration at stage two.

5.11 Stage Two of the site appraisal process consisted of carrying out a site assessment. This involved a more detailed assessment of the suitability of sites carried forward from stage one, with sites being assessed against a broad range of criteria (as shown below), that enabled us to understand and assess potential impacts of their potential development and acceptability of mineral extraction. Using these criteria allowed us to undertake a balanced assessment of the likely overall impacts of development and therefore the potential suitability of the site for allocation. Additionally, professional judgement and knowledge also informed decision making at this stage in the process. The criteria considered in stage two included the following:

- Amenity & Emissions
- Aircraft hazard
- Biodiversity & Geodiversity
- Compatibility with neighbouring land uses and/or sensitive receptors (existing or proposed)
- Cumulative impacts
- Flood risk/water resources
- Ground conditions
- Historic environment
- Landscape
- Legal issues or covenants
- Vehicular access/traffic generation
- Other criteria:
    - HSE Zones
    - Pipelines
    - Proximity to the transport network

5.12 Stage Three of the process involved undertaking an internal review. This was done in order to ensure that the allocation of sites was carried out in a robust and transparent manner. This involved carrying out internal reviews to ensure that a consistent and fair approach had been used when undertaking each site assessment. An assessment of those sites screened out at state one was also included in this review.

5.13 Stage four consists of carrying out a review of landbanks in the area. The local authority produces a joint Humber LAA on an annual basis, which sets out details of aggregate sales and reserve data. This forms the basis for establishing resource requirements in the area.

5.14 The final stage of the process, Stage Five consists of making final recommendations. When all sites have been assessed and these have subsequently been reviewed, a final recommendations report is produced, establishing the sites which have been recommended as allocations.

5.15 The site assessment process, as detailed in the *Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments* report, provided a thorough examination of a range of sites throughout North Lincolnshire which were initially considered for allocation as suitable sites for mineral extraction. This process also acted as a sifting exercise, where sites were both recommended for allocation in a future Local Plan, and discounted for allocation. The tables below highlight those sites which were to be taken forward for further consideration and those which it was agreed should be discounted. The reasons for these decisions can also be found in these tables. The breakdown of sites is as follows:

- Sites to be taken forward for further consideration: 8
- Sites considered as a preferred area of search: 1
- Sites to be discounted: 13

Sites to be taken forward for further consideration

Sites to be taken forward for further consideration	**Recommendation**
SITE REF: NLLP/M12-2: LAND AT COVE FARM, HAXEY	It is considered that existing site and the extension should be identified as site allocation within the emerging North Lincolnshire Local Plan. The site remains an important location for production of sand to meet local and regional requirements. The planning applications on the both sections of the site contain a number of conditions to deal with the issues highlighted in the proforma above. One issue relates to the deliverability of the extension site, as there due to the condition regarding commencement of extraction (highlighted above). Given this, it may be appropriate to identify this as an preferred area, rather than a specific allocation. The existing operational quarry and permitted extraction areas should be identified, with wider Local Plan safeguarding area reduce in scale to reflect this. **RECOMMENDATION: IDENTIFY THE EXISTING PERMITTED QUARRY AREA AS AN OPERATIONAL SITE, AND THE EXTENSION AS A PREFERRED AREA**
SITE REF: NLLP/M15-3: LAND NORTH OF SOUTH MARSH FARM, EAST OF FALKLAND WAY, BARTON UPON HUMBER	The site benefits from planning permission for clay extraction, dating back to the 1980's, with modern planning conditions being applied in the early 2000's. It is currently operational and supplies clay to the nearby tile works at Hoe Hill and Far Ings. To date extraction has focussed on the eastern end of the site and takes place on a twice yearly basis. It is understood that there are around 10 to 15 years reserves within the site. As the site benefits from planning permission and it is operational, it is anticipated that it will be developed in line with existing conditions. Its

	proximity to areas of internationally and nationally designated areas for nature conservation is noted. **RECOMMEDATION: IDENTIFY AS EXISTING MINERAL EXTRACTION SITE AND CONTINUE TO SAFEGUARD IT.**
SITE REF: NLLP/M15-4: LAND WEST OF MELWOOD FARM, C202 BETWEEN EPWORTH & OWSTON FERRY	The site is safeguarded under saved Local Plan policy 15-4 for future clay extraction. The site benefits from planning permission for clay extraction (dating from 1985), including updated conditions (dated 2005), and has been worked since then (see above). However, it has not been worked for a number of years. Many of the issues highlighted in this proforma are dealt with as part of the updated planning conditions. It is noted that the site has been proposed for an alternative use as part of the Call for Sites process for the emerging Local Plan (2017 to 2036). Given that the site benefits from planning permission, it is considered appropriate to continue to safeguard it for future clay extraction. **RECOMMENDATION: CONTINUE TO IDENTIFY THE SITE IN THE EMERGING LOCAL PLAN AS AN EXISTING MINERAL EXTRACTION SITE.**
SITE REF: 4ZTO3 – LAND NORTH & WEST OF HIBALDSTOW QUARRY	The proposed site is an extension to the existing Hibaldstow Quarry, which is likely to be exhausted by 2024. All issues identified in this proforma would need to be addressed at any planning application stage. This would contribute towards maintaining the area's crushed rock landbank and building stone supply, as required by the NPPF. The key issues that need to be addressed are: • Archaeology • Best and most versatile agricultural land. • Drainage • Dust, noise and air quality • Ecology • Transport and access Any restoration plan will also need to consider potential impacts on airfield safeguarding. Clarification is required regarding the site access and route that vehicles would take. It is considered these issues could be addressed through the incorporation of appropriate mitigation measures and good working practices. **RECOMMENDTION: PREFERRED SITE ALLOCATION**
SITE REF: ABSRS – LAND NORTH OF COMPOSITION LANE, WINTERINGHAM	The site is a proposed extension to existing silica sand extraction at the Eastfield Farm complex, which is long established as area for this purpose. It would allow for the continued supply and landbank for silica sand for use in the nearby South Ferriby Cement Works. The issues outlined in this proforma would need to be assessed as part of any planning application. Of particular importance is the proximity of the site to the Humber Estuary Ramsar, SPA, SAC and SSSI, which necessitate a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA). Another key issue is the proximity to a Schedule Monument.

	Silica Sand extraction is, or is permitted, to take place, on land adjacent to the proposed site. The site has a number of constraints that need to be addressed as part of any future planning application and appropriate mitigation measures and working practices identified and implemented. Whilst the presence of the silica sand resource within the site is clear, no indication has been given regarding the quantity of sand available or the potential timescale for its extraction. However, the promoter considered that it could be made available within 5 years. Overall, it is generally considered to a good site for mineral extraction. **RECOMMENDATION: PREFERRED SITE ALLOCATION**
SITE REF: KFZWG – LAND AT HIBALDSTOW QUARRY	The proposed site is an extension to the existing Hibaldstow Quarry, which is likely to be exhausted by 2024. All issues identified in this proforma would need to be addressed at any planning application stage. This would contribute towards maintain the area's crushed rock landbank and building stone supply, as required by the NPPF. The key issues that need to be addressed are: • Archaeology • Best and most versatile agricultural land. • Drainage • Dust, noise and air quality • Ecology • Transport and access Any restoration plan will also need to consider potential impacts on airfield safeguarding. Clarification is required regarding the site access and route that vehicles would take. It is considered these issues could be addressed through the incorporation of appropriate mitigation measures and good working practices. **RECOMMENDTION: PREFERRED SITE ALLOCATION**
SITE REF: RZARY – LAND TO EAST OF HOLME LANE, SCUNTHORPE	The site is a new site for silica sand extraction. It is being put forward in order allow for the continued supply and landbank for silica sand in line with the provisions of the NPPF (July 2018) – paras 203 to 208. The issues and constraints outlined in this proforma would need to be assessed as part of any planning application. An essential matter that would need to be examined is how the site would be accessed and how the extracted material would be transported to the processing plant, as well as the mitigating impacts on the surrounding area. Overall, the site has a number of constraints that would need to be addressed via appropriate mitigation measure. However, it is generally considered to a good site for mineral extraction. **RECOMMENDATION: PREFERRED SITE ALLOCATION**
SITE REF: DJ3RK/IY2AN – LAND NORTH OF BRIGG	The site is a proposed extension to existing silica sand extraction at Messingham Quarry, which is long established as area for this purpose.

ROAD, GREETWELL, MESSINGHAM	It would allow for the continued supply and landbank for silica sand in line with the provisions of the NPPF (July 2018) – paras 203 to 208. The issues outlined in this proforma would need to be assessed as part of any planning application. It is noted that PA/2018/1245 is accompanied by a range of supporting information to address many of the issues outlined above. Overall, the site has a number of constraints that would need to be addressed via appropriate mitigation measure. However, it is generally considered to a good site for mineral extraction. **RECOMMENDATION: PREFERRED SITE ALLOCATION**

Preferred area of search sites

Preferred area of search	**Reason for decision**
SITE REF: OZYUA – LAND SOUTH OF COMPOSITION LANE, WINTERINGHAM	The site is a proposed extension to an existing silica sand extraction site at the Eastfield Farm complex, which is long established as area for this purpose. It would allow for the continued supply and landbank for silica sand for use in the nearby South Ferriby Cement Works. The issues outlined in this proforma would need to be assessed as part of any planning application. Of particular importance is the proximity of the site to the Humber Estuary Ramsar, SPA, SAC and SSSI, which necessitate a HRA. Another key issue is the proximity to a Schedule Monument, whilst the impacts on the nearest residential property (Winteringham Grange) will need to be closely considered. Silica Sand extraction is, or is permitted, to take place, on land adjacent to the proposed site. The site has a number of constraints that need to be addressed as part of any future planning application and appropriate mitigation measures and working practices identified and implemented. Whilst the presence of the silica sand resource within the site is clear, no indication has been given regarding the quantity of sand available or the potential timescale for its extraction. Overall, it is generally considered to be a good site for mineral extraction, however due to the uncertain timescales for extraction it is considered the site should be an area of search rather than allocation. **RECOMMENDATION: PREFERRED AREA OF SEARCH**

Sites to be discounted

Sites to be discounted	**Reason for being discounted**
SITE REF :NLLP/M12 -1: LAND WEST OF WILLOW HOLT, FLIXBOROUGH	The site was a safeguarded under saved Local Plan policy M12-1 for future sand extraction, in order to contribute to the landbank for the area. Sand extraction has previously taken on part of the site, but has not done so for a number of years. Extraction suggests that a viable sand resource is available, and this is supported by BGS Mineral Resource mapping. However, the key consideration as highlighted above is the question over the deliverability of the site during the plan period.

	Should any proposals for mineral extraction come forward on the site, the issues outlined in this proforma would be need addressed, in particular any impacts on the nearby nature conservation sites and scheduled monument. Based on the question of deliverability, at this stage it is not considered appropriate to continue to allocate/safeguard the site from future sand extraction. **RECOMMENDATION: SITE TO BE DISCOUNTED**
SITE REF: NLLP/M15-1: LAND ADJACENT/EAST OF BARROW TILERIES, BARROW HAVEN	The site is an existing safeguarded area for future clay extraction from the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (May 2003). Its aim was to ensure that sufficient clay reserves were maintained to support the tile industry in the area. BGS Mineral Resource Mapping indicates that a brick clay resource underlies the site. However, information suggests that whilst clay extraction has previously taken place to provide material for adjacent Barrow Tileries, this has not been the case for some time, and the site is now used for a different purpose, namely a fishing club. In addition, parts of the site are within the boundaries of internationally and nationally designated sites for nature conservation – the Humber Estuary RAMSAR, SPA and SSSI, as well being immediately adjacent to the Humber Estuary SAC. **RECOMMENDATION: SITE SHOULD NO LONGER BE ALLOCATION/BLANKET SAFEGUARDED**
SITE REF: NLLP/M15-2: LAND ADJACENT/NORTH OF FAR INGS ROAD, BARTON UPON HUMBER	The site is safeguarded for future clay extraction under saved Local Plan policy M15-2. Whilst clay has been extracted on the site in previous years, this has not taken place for some time. It is understood initial planning permission was granted during the late 1960's with new conditions being determined in 2001. At this stage, it is not certain that the site will come forward during the plan period, therefore it is not proposed to continue to allocate/safeguard this site in emerging Local Plan. **RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT CONTINUE TO ALLOCATE/ BLANKET SAFEGUARD THIS SITE IN THE EMERGING LOCAL PLAN.**
SITE REF: NLLP/M19-1: LAND ADJACENT TO NORTH MOOR ROAD, MESSINGHAM	The site is safeguard under saved Local Plan policy M19-1 for future silica sand extraction. Since its allocation, no proposals have come forward for sand this use. Whilst there is likely to be a resource present on the site, as witnessed by previous sand extraction in the area surrounding and by BGS mineral resource mapping, the lack of progress on bringing the site forward could suggest it is unlikely to be delivered, should its designation continue in the emerging Local Plan. In order to bring the site forward for sand extraction, the issues highlighted in this proforma would need to be addressed as part of the supporting information to accompany any planning application. Based on concerns regarding the deliverability of the site for sand extraction, it is considered that it should no longer be safeguarded/allocated in the emerging Local Plan.

	RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT BLANKET SAFEGUARD /ALLOCATE THE SITE IN THE EMERGING LOCAL PLAN.
SITE REF: NLLP/M19-2 – LAND EAST OF SCALLOW GROVE, ADJACENT TO KIRTON ROAD, MESSINGHAM	The site is safeguard under saved Local Plan policy M19-1 for future silica sand extraction. Since its allocation, no proposals have come forward for sand this use. Whilst there is likely to be a resource present on the site, as witnessed by previous sand extraction in the area surrounding and by BGS mineral resource mapping, the lack of progress on bringing the site forward could suggest it is unlikely to be delivered, should its designation continue in the emerging Local Plan. In order to bring the site forward for sand extraction, the issues highlighted in this proforma would need to be addressed as part of the supporting information to accompany any planning application. Based on concerns regarding the deliverability of the site for sand extraction, it is considered that it should no longer be safeguarded/allocated in the emerging Local Plan. **RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT BLANKET SAFEGUARD/ALLOCATE THE SITE IN THE EMERGING LOCAL PLAN.**
SITE REF: NLLP/M19-3 – LAND ADJACENT TO AND WEST OF THE LINCOLN EDGE, NORTH WEST OF MANTON	The site was safeguarded under Saved Local Plan policy M19-3 for future silica sand. At the time of its allocated, it had planning permission for silica sand extraction and subsequent restoration. It is understood that extraction ended and the site has now been restored to agricultural afteruse. **RECOMMEDATION: EXTRACTION COMPLETE AND SITE RESTORED – DO NOT ALLOCATE/ BLANKET SAFEGUARD IN THE LOCAL PLAN**
SITE REF: NLLP/M19-4: LAND AT BLACK NOOK WOOD	The site is an area that was safeguard under saved Local plan policy M19-4 for future silica sand extraction. Whilst, BGS Resource mapping indicates the presence of silica sand resources, no proposals have come forward for extraction on the site. Therefore, it can reasonably be assumed that proposals will not come forward in future, which questions the deliverability of the site. In addition, its designation as a Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) introduces another constraint that would potential prevent the site being delivered for mineral extraction. **RECOMMENDATION: SITE TO BE DISCOUNTED**
SITE REF: LAND OFF MIDDLEGATE LANE, SOUTH FERRIBY	This is a new site, that promoter suggest would be suitable for chalk extraction, when the adjacent South Ferriby quarry is exhausted. Whilst it is clear from the presence of the existing quarry and BGS mineral resource mapping that a potential supply exists, information about the quantity of material available and whether it is viable to extract have not been provided. Furthermore, it is not clear about the timescale for the site to come forward. A key outstanding issue relates to access to the site and how the extracted material would be transported – i.e. by conveyor or by road. There are concerns about the ability of Middlegate Lane to accommodate additional traffic should the road option be adopted, in particular its junction with the A1077 in South Ferriby. Another issue

	relates to located adjacent to a SSSI. Accordingly, it is considered that this site should be discounted from the selection process. **RECOMMENDATION: SITE TO BE DISCOUNTED**
SITE REF: 10ZQM – LAND TO SOUTH OF A1077/WEST OF CEMENT WORKS, SOUTH FERRIBY	The proposal is for a new clay extraction site, with the extracted material being used for engineering purposes. The promoter considers that there is a sufficient resource, although details have yet to be provided. This proforma highlights several key issues that would need to be addressed. The key determining factor in respect of the site is its proximity to the Humber Estuary Ramsar, SPA, SAC and SSSI and the potential for impacts that would arising from any future mineral working. This would require a HRA to be undertaken in order ascertain the likely significant effect that it would have on these sites. At this stage, it is considered appropriate to allocate this area in the Local Plan: Preferred Options document. **RECOMMENDATION: SITE TO BE DISCOUNTED**
SITE REF: JUCBG – LAND AT ELLERHOLME FARM, WROOT	The proposed site would be a new sand and gravel extraction site. The proposer has yet to determine what quantity of sand and gravel could potentially be extracted from the site, however BGS resource mapping suggests there is a resource present. This proforma highlights a number of important issues that affect the potential allocation of the site. These relate to its location adjacent to the Hatfield Moors SPA/SAC and SSSI and Humberhead Peatlands NNR, and highways. With regard to the former, a HRA would be required, whilst there are concerns that sand and gravel extraction would have an adverse effect on the integrity (AEOI) of the European Sites, due to dewatering of the degraded raise bog capable of regeneration. Additional information would be needed "No AEOI" with certainty. In relation to highways, it is considered that current road network in the surrounding is unable to accommodate additional traffic that would arise from mineral extraction. Based on the above factors, it is not considered appropriate to allocate the proposed site for mineral extraction in the Local Plan. **RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT ALLOCATED AS PREFERRED SITE**
SITE REF: TEQPK – LAND SOUTH OF A1077, EASTFIELD FARM, WINTERINGHAM	The site is a proposed as new site for silica sand extraction around Eastfield Farm complex, which is long established as area for this purpose. It would allow for the continued supply and landbank for silica sand for use in the nearby South Ferriby Cement Works. The issues outlined in this proforma would need to be assessed as part of any planning application. Of particular importance is the proximity of the site to the Humber Estuary Ramsar, SPA, SAC and SSSI, which necessitate a Habitat Regulations Assessment. Other key issues are the proximity to a Scheduled Monument, and access to the site. Whilst the presence of the silica sand resource within the site is clear, no indication has been given regarding the quantity of sand available or the potential timescale for its extraction. In relation to access the council's highways team do not wish to see additional accesses on the A1077 and have concerns regarding the number of vehicle movements that would take place via the existing access, given the proximity to the

	bend on the A1077 and adjacent farm access. Based on these issues, it is not considered appropriate to allocated site as preferred site for silica sand extraction. **RECOMMENDATION: SITE TO BE DISCOUNTED**
SITE REF: YMENY: LAND AT NORTH MOOR ROAD/BUTTERWICK ROAD, MESSINGHAM	The site is a new site that proposer considers has potential for a number of uses including mineral extraction. Two of the fields to west of North Moor Road are safeguard under saved Local Plan policy M19-1 for future silica sand extraction. Since its allocation, no proposals have come forward for sand this use. Whilst there is likely to be a resource present on the site, as witnessed by previous sand extraction in the area surrounding and by BGS mineral resource mapping, the key issue is whether the site can be delivered for mineral extraction within the emerging Local Plan period. In order bring the site forward for sand extraction, the issues highlighted in this proforma would need to be addressed as part of the supporting information to accompany any planning application. Based on concerns regarding the deliverability of the site for sand extraction, it is considered that it should not be safeguarded/allocated in the emerging Local Plan. **RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT BLANKET SAFEGUARD/ALLOCATE THE SITE IN THE EMERGING LOCAL PLAN.**
SITE REF: 4LG95 – LAND OFF HIGH LEVELS BANK, BELTON	The site is proposed as a new site with potential for mineral extraction. However, there is no information supplied to suggest that the site will be deliverable for this purpose within the Local Plan period. Mineral resource mapping indicates that there may be blown sand present on a small part of the site, whilst the majority is underlain by peat. Peat extraction has taken in the surrounding area, but has now ceased. National planning policy is not to encourage further peat extraction. In addition, mineral extraction has the potential to impact on the adjacent SSSI. For these reason, it is considered inappropriate to allocated this site in emerging Local Plan. **RECOMMENDATION: DO NOT ALLOCATE THE SITE FOR MINERAL EXTRACTION IN THE LOCAL PLAN.**

5.16 Clearly, the process of producing the New Local Plan has very little influence over existing operational sites, which operate in accordance with their existing planning permission and the prevailing commercial environment. As the existing sites are already contributing towards meeting mineral requirements in the area, by enlarge, they have all been allocated in the Plan. There have also been some notable departures from the site assessment recommendations set out above for particular sites as described below:

- Site Ref: 4ZTO3 – Land North & West of Hibaldstow Quarry- recommended as a preferred site allocation and allocated as a specific site as it already has planning permission
- Site Ref: ABSRS – Land North of Composition Lane, Winteringham- recommended as a preferred site allocation, but now proposed to be deleted from the Plan via a proposed main modification. Our historic environment officers noted that Archaeology present. Heritage assessment required including archaeological evaluation. Further consideration was given Historic England objection due to its position in relation to Old Winteringham Roman

settlement scheduled monument without detailed further assessment, which may illustrate that the proposals are unsuitable due to the level of harm to the significance of heritage assets proportionate to their importance or because harm cannot be successfully mitigated. The Council has also given further consideration that this was an allocation for extraction of silica sand resource- an industrial mineral. The NPPF requires a stock of permitted reserves of this resource is maintained to support the level of actual and proposed investment required for new or existing plant, and the maintenance and improvement of existing plant and equipment. As of 7/1/23 no plant and equipment were present on the site nor the adjacent site most recently worked there. Furthermore, the possible and historic use for the sand was at the South Ferriby Cement Plant, the indication of resource was unknown and the proposed working lifespan was also unknown. Operations at South Ferriby Cement Plant have ceased, other than storage and onward distribution of products indicating some doubt as to a possible market for the material.

- Site Ref: OZYUA – Land South of Composition Lane, Winteringham- recommended as a preferred site allocation, but now proposed to be deleted from the Plan via a proposed main modification. Our historic environment officers noted that Archaeology present. Heritage assessment required including archaeological evaluation. It was also noted the site was within 20m of Scheduled Monument (DLS1729). Further consideration was given Historic England comments regarding need for assessment of whether the setting / related remains of the scheduled roman site extending into the site and potential impacts. Concern in terms of aesthetic impacts. Position in relation to Old Winteringham Roman settlement scheduled monument without detailed further assessment, which may illustrate that the proposals are unsuitable due to the level of harm to the significance of heritage assets proportionate to their importance or because harm cannot be successfully mitigated. The Council has also given further consideration that this was an allocation for extraction of silica sand resource- an industrial mineral. The NPPF requires a stock of permitted reserves of this resource is maintained to support the level of actual and proposed investment required for new or existing plant, and the maintenance and improvement of existing plant and equipment. As of 7/1/23 no plant and equipment were present on either site nor the adjacent site most recently worked there. Furthermore, the possible and historic use for the sand was at the South Ferriby Cement Plant, the indication of resource was unknown and the proposed working lifespan was also unknown. Operations at South Ferriby Cement Plant have ceased, other than storage and onward distribution of products indicating some doubt as to a possible market for the material.

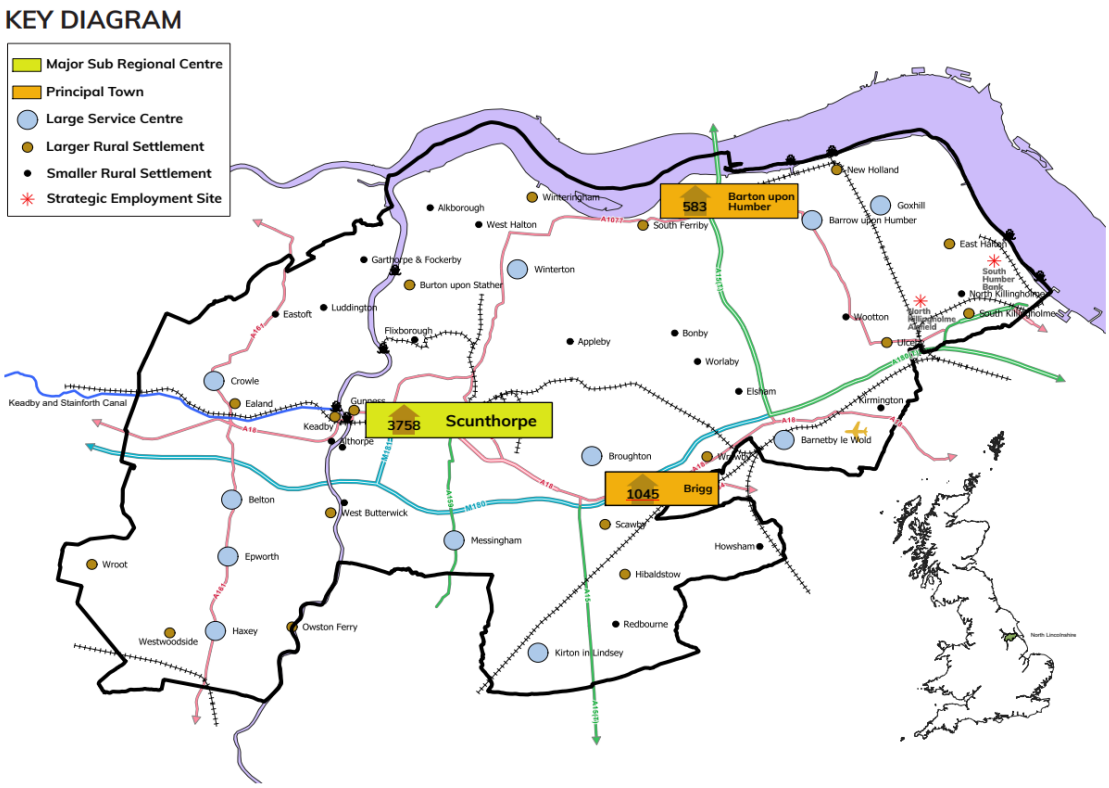
5.17 Policy MIN6: Mineral Sites sets out the sites that either have planning permission or are operational sites already, as well as new sites suggested for allocation in the local plan. These sites are required to ensure that provision is there to meet the mineral requirements in North Lincolnshire to 2038.

5.18 Through the allocation of the new sites listed in Policy MIN6, it will be possible to ensure that North Lincolnshire continues to deliver a steady and adequate supply of minerals in line with national policy. As already shown, a number of existing operation and permitted sites will continue during the lifetime of the Local Plan, until extraction ceases and they are restored for a beneficial after use. In line with other considerations, this also dictates the spatial distribution of mineral site allocations, and further highlights the difficulties of aligning this with wider spatial distribution of housing and employment development shown on the map below.

5.19 The selection of mineral sites, following the exercise laid out in the Site Selection Methodology and Site Assessments report, was therefore unable to fully factor in the wider spatial strategy as set out in the Local Plan, as the location of sites is limited to where different minerals naturally occur. Additionally, as the tables above illustrate, only a limited number of land bids were made. This has meant the need to allocate sites for mineral extraction enabling the authority to meet its requirements has taken precedence over the direction of the wider spatial strategy of the Local Plan.

The *Minerals Appointment Background Paper,* which was updated in March 2022, considers the need for aggregates in North Lincolnshire over the Local Plan period of 2022 to 2038. This document also highlighted there was only a limited relationship between new development and aggregate sales in the local area. The evidence to justify a closer spatial alignment of aggregate sources with aggregate users (new development) is therefore similarly limited.

5.20 As already stated, the natural occurrence of minerals largely dictates the location of primary mineral sites. Due to their economic importance, it is incumbent upon NLC, as the MPA, to ensure that there is a steady stream of sites for extraction, that enable an appropriate landbank to be maintained, in line with national policy.



Map: Spatial Strategy for North Lincolnshire as set out in the new Local Plan 2022 – 2038

5.21 Principally, development of housing sites and employment land sites will be concentrated in the major sub-regional centre of Scunthorpe & Bottesford urban area and the principal towns of Barton upon Humber & Brigg. Additionally, to maintain and enhance their role as large service centres smaller settlements will be the focus for an appropriate level of growth, to ensure that they remain sustainable communities. However, as is suggested, there is some divergence between where development and growth of housing and employment land is being situated in the Local Plan up to 2038 and where minerals naturally occur. This in turn provides some explanation as to why the allocation of minerals sites does not necessarily coincide spatially with the wider spatial strategy as set out in the new Local Plan. Nor would it necessarily be appropriate for the location of mineral, housing and employment allocations to be located near one another as mineral development can cause disturbance to housing and sensitive employment uses.

6. Factors influencing the Plan's Minerals Strategy

6.1 North Lincolnshire has some significant major infrastructure schemes planned which includes the Able Humber Port, a major project, will involve the development of 245ha of land on the South Humber Gateway for the manufacturing and assembly of off-shore wind turbines with extensive space for the component parts' storage. It will involve the construction of a 1.3km long quay that will extend into the Humber Estuary to allow operators to load turbines onto ships to be taken to their destinations off the East Coast. This project is the largest of its type in the country and will be a major job creator. In close proximity to the port site is the Able Energy Park which involves the development of 454ha of land for facilities to support the growth of the South Humber Gateway. It includes the creation of transport depots, warehousing and external storage areas, together with offices, a business park and a motel. A further 190.07ha of land is proposed for allocation for employment related uses through the new local plan.

6.2 Another major scheme is the Lincolnshire Lakes development which is the area's largest regeneration project. The vision is to create six high quality, sustainable village communities containing a total of 6,000 new homes on land between the western edge of Scunthorpe and the River Trent, with major opportunities for leisure, sport and recreation. It will also provide an ideal setting for new businesses with the creation of new high-quality employment space within a business park. The first phase of the development is expected to be delivered by 2038 which includes 2,150 new homes, 25.15ha land for employment and supporting community and leisure facilities, local centres, strategic mixed-use areas and blue and green infrastructure. Adequate road infrastructure is also needed to support this strategic allocation.

6.3 Although the planned infrastructure is significant, it is difficult to be sure of the direct impact on aggregate supply as materials may be sourced from elsewhere and there will also be a certain level of secondary and recycled aggregates, with increasing focus on improving this ratio as has been the trend in recent years.

6.4 The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) results were used to influence the plans strategy. Specifically, section 5.9 and Table 5-9 show a Summary of the sustainability appraisal of the proposed policies under the planning for a sustainable supply of minerals theme. This theme contained eight proposed policies that sought to ensure existing and new minerals development in North Lincolnshire is effectively managed in the long-term, whilst also providing policy provision to facilitate new hydrocarbon development and the recycled and secondary aggregate industry.

6.5 The SA identified a range of positive and negative effects in relation to these policies, including significant positive effects for several of the SA economic objectives and potentially significant negative effects for several of the SA environmental objectives. In particular, Policy MIN1 (minerals supply) was found to have several potential adverse effects in relation to landscape (SA Objective 1), biodiversity (SA Objective 2) and climate change (SA objective 7), together with several minor adverse effects in relation to other SA environmental objectives. Whilst the policy is principally focused on setting out the volumes of mineral supply that will be maintained in North Lincolnshire, it does also support the continued operation of existing minerals sites and the allocation of new sites.

6.6 These potential environmental risks are reflected in the assessment of Policy MIN6, which allocates existing and new minerals development in the area. Such development has the potential to adversely affect local landscape character and sensitive biodiversity and can also generate significant emissions to air during the extraction, processing and transportation of minerals, which can affect local air quality and contribute substantial greenhouse gas emissions. However, these risks can be mitigated further through the simultaneous application of other proposed policies, particularly policies within the 'delivering a quality environment' theme, which require new development to effectively protect and potentially enhance local environmental characteristics. All of the policies

were considered likely to have a range of positive economic benefits, with several of the policies also likely to benefit levels of social deprivation in North Lincolnshire by safeguarding existing employment uses (mineral operations) and creating new employment opportunities. In addition, all of the policies were likely to make a positive contribution to SA Objective 14 and support the sustainable management of minerals. Following these results the Council assessed the risks represented by proposed sites within these safeguarding areas to ensure that all such development fully mitigates any risks.

6.7 Consultation comments received through the various stages of the plan influenced the strategy also. The main concerns and issues raised regarding minerals through the Publication version through consultation responses were:

- Sufficient provision in terms of sites to meet aggregate requirements;
- Assurance safeguarding areas do not prevent important infrastructure from coming forward.

6.8 Specifically, Lincolnshire County Council noted that overall, whilst requirements for aggregates have been identified, it is not clear in terms of demonstrating how these requirements are to be met over the plan period. They stated the Minerals Apportionment Background Paper (2020 to 2038) has demonstrated significant growth in both sand and gravel and crushed rock sales since 2016 and 2013 respectively. It is therefore considered that more weight should have been given to the significant level of future/planned infrastructure when setting future requirements for aggregates. Due to these issues the Minerals Apportionment Background paper was updated in 2022 and changes made to minerals related policies in the Publication draft Addendum Plan (May 2022).

6.9 Further to their previous consultation response, Lincolnshire County Council took account of the findings of the updated Minerals Apportionment Background Paper (March 2022) in conjunction with the amendments to the minerals-related policies in the Local Plan Publication Draft Addendum Plan (May 2022). The updated evidence and policies provided set out an appropriate and sound approach to the provision of Minerals for the duration of the plan period. Consequently, the issues identified in previous consultation response(s) have been satisfied.

6.10 Another issue raised through consultation comments regarding Minerals was that Historic England objected to proposed mineral allocation sites MIN6-17 Eastfield Farm, Winteringham (Silica Sand) (New Site) and MIN6-18 Land South of Composition Lane, Winteringham (Silica Sand) (Area of Search) as set out in their responses at the Publication Draft. The concerns were that the Roman town may continue into MIN6-17 and in terms of aesthetic impacts. In relation to Policy MIN-18 Historic England recommend that proposals for restoration should make a positive contribution to heritage assets and their settings, where relevant. The site MIN6-18: Land South of Composition Lane, Winteringham is located within 20 metres of a Scheduled Monument – the Old Winteringham Roman Settlement, whilst there is potential for archaeological assets on the site. NLC proposed to delete both allocations MIN6-17 and MIN6-18 from the Plan through a main modification as agreed through a statement of common ground with Historic England. It may still be possible for the prospective operator to bring forward the working of sand from the sites via the development management process. Historic England welcomed deletion of the sites and their objection was removed.

7. Resource and infrastructure Safeguarding

7.1 Minerals are a finite resource. This means that once they are used, they cannot be replaced. It is therefore essential that due consideration is given to where the area's minerals are found and how important they are now and are likely to be the future These resources need to be used sustainably, and where appropriate, safeguarded for the future. The NPPF requires that mineral resources are safeguarded by defining Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSA) and adopt appropriate policies so that known locations of specific resources of local and national importance are not sterilised by non-

mineral development where this should be avoided (whilst not creating a presumption that the resources defined will be worked).

7.2 Where appropriate, MSAs have been defined for North Lincolnshire's mineral resources (see Local Geological Context above) to ensure that they are not sterilised by non-mineral development, covering sand and gravel, chalk, limestone, silica sand, brick clay and ironstone. The methodology used to define the MSAs is set out in the Minerals Safeguarding – Technical Paper. In summary this was broken down into 6 steps as follows:

1: IDENTIFY THE BEST GEOLOGICAL AND MINERAL RESOURCE INFORMATION

Mapping from the British Geological Survey (BGS) and information held by the minerals industry was identified as the best mineral resource information.

2: DECIDE WHICH MINERAL RESOURCES TO SAFEGUARD AND THE PHYSICAL EXTENT OF MSAS

The information gathered during stage 1 provided the basis for any decisions about which minerals should be safeguarded and was used to put together resource maps for North Lincolnshire. Mineral deposits or those which may become of economic importance to North Lincolnshire in the foreseeable future were then identified and the extent the resource area to be safeguarded. The extent of any such area was dependent on the extent and configuration of the mineral deposit. Issues and constraints that could affect them were then considered including:

- Settlements;
- Appropriate safeguarding buffer zones;
- Transport and processing infrastructure;
- New allocation proposals for other land uses such as housing and employment
- Sensitive environmental areas; and
- Previously worked areas and current operations and planning permissions.

3: UNDERTAKE CONSULTATION ON DRAFT MSAS

In relation to minerals safeguarding, the minerals that the council is proposing to safeguard and the draft Mineral Safeguarding Areas themselves was subject to specialist consultation. Of particular importance was the need to involve the minerals industry alongside other key stakeholders such as Historic England, Natural England, the Environment Agency, BGS and adjoining mineral planning authorities. Consultation on proposed MSAs have taken place through the Preferred Options and Publication Draft versions of the emerging Local Plan.

4: DECIDE ON THE APPROACH TO SAFEGUARDING IN THE LOCAL PLAN

The North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) sets the planning policy framework for the definition of MSAs. The approach was developed by working closely with the minerals industry and through consultation and sets out those mineral resources which will be safeguarded and the circumstances under which development in MSAs will be allowed.

5: INCLUDE DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES IN THE LOCAL PLAN

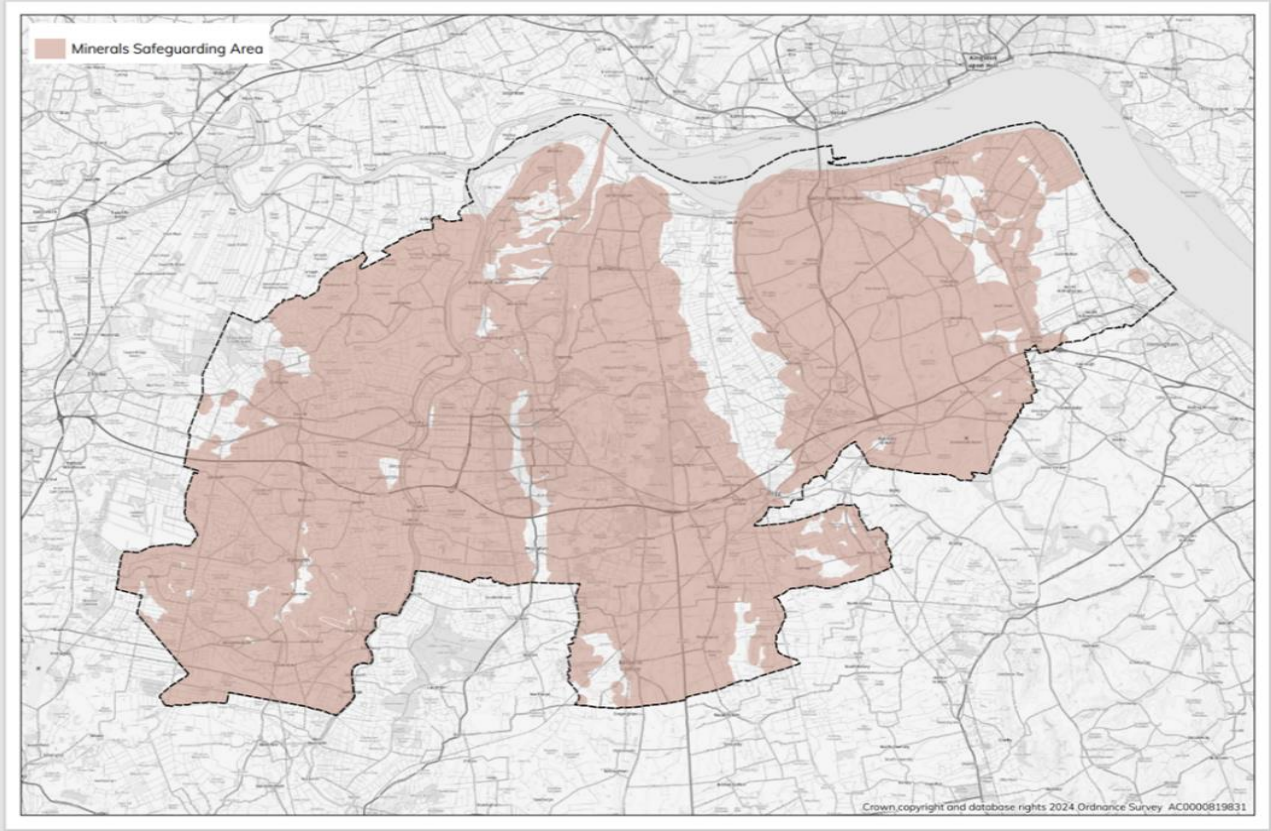
To ensure that the safeguarding process is effective also relies on developing criteria against which proposals for development in MSAs can be considered. Within the above context Local Plan policy MIN2: 'Mineral Safeguarding' seeks to prevent the sterilisation of nationally and locally important minerals in North Lincolnshire by the identification of MSAs that covers chalk, Lincolnshire limestone, sand and gravel, silica sand and brick clay. The policy establishes buffer zones of 250m and 500 to maintain safeguarding around identified mineral resources and sets out detailed criteria that non-mineral development will need to satisfy within a MSA, by means of a mineral assessment, if applicable. Prior extraction in MSA is also supported and the safeguarding of mineral sites and associated infrastructure against development that would unnecessarily sterilise or prejudice or jeopardise their use by creating incompatible land uses nearby.

All identified MSAs have been defined on the Policies Map as part of the development of the North Lincolnshire Local Plan (2020 to 2038) and are linked to policies within it.

6: INCLUDE MINERAL ASSESSMENTS IN THE LOCAL LIST OF INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS

It is important that mineral planning authorities, like North Lincolnshire, have the relevant information about mineral resources in their areas in order to assess planning applications in MSAs for non-minerals development. The Local Plan identifies the information required for a mineral resource assessment to accompany relevant planning application in Mineral Safeguarding Areas within Appendix 3.

7.3 The resulting MSAs can be seen on the Policies Map and on the overview map below.



Minerals Safeguarding Area Map

7.4 The NPPF also includes a requirement to safeguard existing, planned and potential mineral infrastructure. This can include rail heads, wharfs, depots, coating and batching plants. In the case of North Lincolnshire there are no specific rail heads or wharves that handle minerals on a regular basis. However, there are a number of port and wharf facilities along the Rivers Humber and Trent that have the potential to be used for landing marine aggregates, if required. Policy EC5: Wharves, supports proposals for new or extended port, wharf and jetty facilities on the Rivers Humber and Trent. It also safeguards existing wharf and jetty facilities on the Rivers Humber and Trent for cargo handling facilities. Policy T6: Freight, safeguards the existing network of rail freight routes and infrastructure.

7.5 There are a number of concrete batching plants in the area, particularly in the Scunthorpe and Bottesford Urban Area, as well as an asphalt plant. Singleton Birch have a lime manufacturing plant at Melton Ross. There are also several facilities for the production of recycled aggregates associated with the area's three limestone quarries as well as at Elsham Wold (Stoneledge). Part 5 of Policy MIN2: Mineral Safeguarding, safeguards mineral sites and associated infrastructure that supports

the supply of minerals against development that would unnecessarily sterilise the sites and infrastructure or prejudice or jeopardise their use by creating incompatible land uses nearby.

Assessment of housing and employment allocations

7.6 As part of the SA all housing and employment sites have been assessed against the full suite of site assessment criteria following the methodology described in Chapter 3 of the SA (DLP15). Site assessment criteria 27 'Designated Mineral Resources' within table 3-7 was used to assess housing and employment sites in terms of their proximity to mineral safeguarding areas. A summary of the site assessment results, including criteria 27, for the housing and employment allocations are shown in Tables 7-4 and 7-10. Tables 7-5 and 7-11 provides a summary of the results of the sustainability scores for each proposed housing and employment site allocation (based upon the scoring system shown in Table 3-8). The percentage of sites within each site assessment category ('very good', 'good', 'poor', etc) for each of the site assessment criteria is shown in Tables 7-6 7-12. Individual sites have then been ranked according to their sustainability scores, with the results shown in Tables 7-7 and 7-13.

7.7 In order to be effective, Policy MIN2 requires the preparation of a Mineral Assessment (unless it constitutes development that is exempt from the mineral safeguarding policy as listed within Appendix 2) for non-minerals development within MSAs. To be consistent with national policy prior extraction should be maximised where this is practical and environmentally feasible. It is also necessary to clarify for effectiveness that temporary development may take place without sterilising the mineral. However, it could also be addressed within a Planning Statement. Essentially, the demonstration would be expected to address the matters set out in policy MIN2 as relevant, whilst also reflecting on the nature of the non-minerals development being proposed.

7.8 It is acknowledged that the majority of the Plan's housing and employment allocations do fall within a mineral safeguarding area. An assessment has been undertaken to determine which sites fall within a mineral safeguarding area with the table below showing the summary results for each mineral resource and the percentage of that safeguarded resource taken up by proposed housing and employment allocations. It is evident that across all of the mineral sub types the percentage of that particular resource taken up by housing and employment allocations is very low and, in all cases, less than 0.2% of the total safeguarded surface area of the mineral resource. This demonstrates that the proposed housing and employment allocations do not take up a significant area of safeguarded mineral resources. Furthermore, with the vast majority of the housing allocations falling adjacent to current settlement development limits, it would be reasonable to conclude that due to constraints, such as impact on residential amenity, traffic, noise and landscape concerns etc that many of the safeguarded mineral areas that cover housing allocations would not be worked out, or would be more problematic to do so. In addition, the Plan's housing and employment allocations have been made to meet objectively assessed needs as assessed through the Plan. The Government attaches great weight to planning positively to meet needs which outweighs the relatively modest impact allocations might have on potentially viable, but yet unproven mineral resources within the safeguarded areas.

	Mineral Safeguarding Area			
	Brick/Clay	**Chalk**	**Limestone**	**Sand gravel superficial**
Total sq m **Total ha**	51,070,500 5,107.05	1,125,624,000 11,256.24	931,422,000 9,314.22	3,089,422,000 30,894.22
Housing allocations and commitment %	0.0860%	0.0237%	0.0538%	0.0834%
Employment allocation %	0.0379%	0.0409%	0.0000%	0.0590%
Total % of safeguarding areas covered by housing and employment allocations	0.1239%	0.0646%	0.0538%	0.1424%

8. Mineral Specific DM Policies

8.1 The new North Lincolnshire Local Plan 2022 to 2038 sets out a range of specific development management policies, to support the decision making of planning applications in the plans area. Whilst Chapter 15 specifically focusses on general Development Management policies, Chapter 12 (*Planning for a Sustainable Supply of Minerals)* also includes some mineral specific development management policies. As such, this section seeks to establish why this is and how there is not overlap between policies in the two respective chapters.

8.2 Chapter 12 provides a raft of information pertaining to mineral specific development management policies, to be used when determining mineral specific site applications. There are also elements of these policies which are covered within chapter 15, *Development Management,* however it is believed that due to the range of nuanced issues specific to mineral site applications, it is necessary to have mineral specific development management policies, separate to those laid out in chapter 15.

8.3 This section shall breakdown each specific policy and conduct an assessment of the mineral specific development management policies within each, and highlight why these are different to those set out within the development management chapter of the local plan. Furthermore, it shall be shown why these are required to be set out within the mineral chapter of the local plan, as opposed to the aforementioned development management section.

<u>Policy MIN2: Mineral Safeguarding, parts 3,4, and 5</u>

8.4 In Policy MIN2, parts 3, 4 and 5 provide further information for applicants, as well as those making decisions on mineral specific planning applications. Part 3 states that where non-mineral development is proposed within a Minerals Safeguarding Area (MSA) a mineral safeguarding assessment should be provided to demonstrate a range of things which are specifically related to the extraction and development of mineral sites. It is suggested that the following things are then included in the assessment:

- The mineral is not of economic value or potential value;
- That extraction of the mineral would not be physically or economically viable, practicable or environmentally acceptable;

- Where a development is incompatible, it is of a temporary nature that can be completed and the site returned to a condition that would not prevent future mineral extraction;
- Material considerations indicate that the need for the development overrides the presumption for mineral safeguarding, such that sterilisation of the mineral can be permitted following the exploration of opportunities for prior extraction.

8.5 Part 4 of Policy MIN2 states that prior extraction of safeguarded minerals will be supported in MSA's, where it is necessary to enable non-mineral development to take place. Again, this is the type of detail that is pertinent only to mineral planning applications, and as such it is believed are much more suited to being placed within the minerals chapter of the local plan, as opposed to the development management chapter. By so doing, it enables all those considerations that need to be taken account of when considering a specific minerals application, to be located alongside all other important detail.

8.6 The policy then continues in part 5 by indicating that mineral sites and the associated infrastructure that supports the supply of minerals in North Lincolnshire will be safeguarded against development that would unnecessarily sterilise the sties and infrastructure by creating incompatible land uses nearby. Again, there is no policy within the development management chapter of the local plan which goes into this level of detail when determining a mineral planning application, and again provides further justification for the requirement to include these mineral specific development management policies within the minerals chapter.

Policy MIN3: Mineral Extraction

8.7 Item 1.C in Policy MIN3 *Mineral Extraction* states that *Residential amenity and human health is protected from issues including noise, vibration, water pollution and air quality.* Whilst environmental considerations are contained within a specific development management policy (see Policy DM3: *Environmental Protection*), and there is specific mention of both air quality and noise pollution contained within this policy, again this provision is much broader than that detail outlined within Policy MIN3. Furthermore, section 12.17 outlines that Policy MIN3 *sets out the Council's approach for dealing with planning applications for mineral extraction and the key criteria that will be considered, alongside all other relevant policies in this plan.* This gives clear justification for the existence of a mineral specific development management policy, standalone from those contained within the development management section of the Local Plan.

Policy MIN4: Recycled & Secondary Aggregates

8.8 As minerals are a finite resource, it is important to ensure that they are used in a way that is appropriate, efficient and sustainable. This can be done by encouraging the re-use and recycling of suitable materials to help reduce the amount of primary mineral extraction. Policy MIN4: Recycled & Secondary Aggregates provides a greater level of detail than can be found elsewhere, in other policies, to support those making decisions on mineral applications. Part 1 of MIN4 states that the use of recycled and secondary aggregates will be supported in order to reduce the reliance on primary aggregates and contribute towards sustainable development. Furthermore, it adds that proposals for facilities for secondary and recycled aggregates will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that potentially adverse impacts are able to be avoided or minimised to acceptable levels.

8.9 Part 4 of MIN4 indicates that preference will be given towards sites at the following locations:

- Mineral extraction sites with existing processing plants;
- On-site as an ancillary activity to construction or demolition projects;
- Committed waste management facilities or within suitable area for waste management where the proposed use accords with the type of waste use either existing at that location, or is complementary to the current economic role, status and uses of the employment area;

- Existing industrial areas or on land that is permitted or allocated for general employment development.

Policy MIN5: Energy Minerals (Oil & Gas/Hydrocarbons)

8.10 Oil and gas (also known as hydrocarbons) are primary sources of energy and have a vital role in the UK economy. As such, government policy is focused on ensuring that there is a secure and diverse supply of energy sources, including the use of indigenous hydrocarbons from conventional and unconventional sources. In response to this, Policy MIN5: Energy Minerals (Oil & Gas/Hydrocarbons) states in part 1, that proposals for the exploration, appraisal and production of conventional and unconventional hydrocarbons will be supported where they are consistent with the following principles:

- This takes place within areas covered by Petroleum Exploration & Development Licences (PEDLs) and hydrocarbon extraction sites;
- Support will only be given to applications for energy minerals that significantly benefit the economy and that any accumulative and adverse impacts on the environment can be avoided or mitigated to the satisfaction of the MPA. Furthermore, developments must also demonstrate how they shall provide benefits to the natural environment, through biodiversity enhancement for example. Additionally, where contamination has occurred as a result of extraction, measures must be employed to sufficiently remediate the site following decommissioning;
- Furthermore, proposals for the exploration, appraisal and production stage should also include a detailed scheme of working, a plan showing the locations where surface work and underground operations will occur and a plan showing the proximity of other oil and gas fields.

8.11 Part 2 of Policy MIN5 also indicates that proposals, at production stage, must also include a completed appraisal of the hydrocarbon resource field, a comprehensive scheme for the full development of the hydrocarbon resource within an agreed timescale and the use of existing facilities for the development of any additional fields discovered during the development.

8.12 As section 12.36 of the supporting text indicates, in view of the potential risks associated with exploration and production of both conventional and unconventional sources of oil and gas, it is essential that operators apply the highest environmental standards throughout the course of the development. As has been stated throughout, there are some very specific issues to take account of when determining planning applications for energy minerals, and due to these nuances, it is believed that an appropriate approach is to contain all development management issues that need to be adhered to, within the wider framework of the specific policy.

Policy MIN6: Mineral Sites

8.13 Item 4 of Policy MIN6 establishes further considerations when determining mineral planning applications, the locations of which are set out within the parameter of the policy. It indicates the range of assessments required to determine a minerals application, as well as the need for a restoration plan to be provided when an application is submitted. Here it is stated that *where proposals come forward for mineral extraction, applications should be supported by a range of assessments that address environmental impacts, including air quality, biodiversity, drainage, dust, ecology, flood risk, heritage/archaeology, hydrology, landscape/visual impact, noise and transport/highways.* Due to the very specific assessments required to appropriately determine the validity of a minerals planning application, it is deemed necessary to include this information within chapter 12 of the plan, rather than chapter 15.

Policy MIN7: Borrow Pits & Ancillary Extraction

8.14 Borrow pits are temporary mineral workings opened locally to supply material for a specific construction project. Examples include road building schemes or the construction of a reservoir, as

well as other more minor schemes. Part 1 of Policy MIN7: Borrow Pits & Ancillary Extraction states that permission will be granted for the development of borrow pits and extraction occurring as an ancillary activity, where it can be demonstrated that the borrow pit is in close proximity to the construction project it is intended to supply, that the extraction of the mineral can be clearly demonstrated to be ancillary to the proposed development and that this is proportionate in scale to the primary use. Finally, it must be shown that the proposal is for the prior extraction of minerals within a Mineral Safeguarding Area. It is important for this level of detail to be provided within the minerals section of the Local Plan, as opposed to within the development management chapter, as the specific detail is focussed solely on development for borrow pits and ancillary extraction activities.

8.15 Furthermore, a proposal will also need to demonstrate that inert waste arising from the associated works or extraction is used in restoration works where appropriate and that the proposed development is complaint with the relevant local plan policies. To accompany this, it is expected that an assessment of any environmental impacts will be provided with the required mitigation where necessary. Again, as is indicated in section 12.46 of the supporting text, in considering proposals for borrow pits, the MPA will need to be satisfied that it represents the most suitable source of material to meet the specific demand involved, and that both the working and restoration can be achieved without unacceptable environmental impacts. This demonstrates the need to include mineral specific development management policies within this chapter, and highlights that whilst there may be some policies within the development management chapter that cover similar broad issues, they are less specific to planning for minerals.

Policy MIN8: Restoration, Aftercare & Afteruse of Mineral Extraction Sites

8.16 Policy MIN8 *Restoration, aftercare & after use of mineral extraction sites* provides further details of how applications should address a site's use once mineral extraction has ceased. Section 2 of this policy establishes that restoration plans should be submitted with the planning application, and this should reflect the after-use of a given mineral site. Again, similar to Policy MIN6, these are mineral specific development management policies and as such are better situated within the minerals chapter of the plan.

8.17 Due to the reasons set out above, and the differing nature of a minerals application compared with a standard residential or commercial planning application, it is deemed appropriate to separate mineral specific development management policies from the wider suite of development management policies as set out in chapter 15. Additionally, due to the very specific nature of requirements requested and necessary to determine a minerals planning application, whilst the policies may seems similar between those set out in chapter 12 and chapter 15, there in fact is little to no overlap as chapter 12 policies are focussed on minerals applications, and would not necessarily be required in planning applications for other uses.