

**NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

**AUTHORITY MEETING – 25 JUNE 2009**

**UPDATE ON MINERALS AND WASTE PLANNING FOR THE NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK**

**Report by:** Sarah Applegate, Senior Planning Policy Officer

**Summary:**

The New Forest National Park is the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for the National Park, and prepares joint minerals and waste planning policy documents with its partners Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council and Southampton City Council.

This report summarises the work to date on three planning policy documents covering the National Park on Minerals and Waste, and outlines the next steps in the process.

**Recommendation:**

**To note the contents of this report**

**Papers:**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>NFNPA 311/09:</b> | Cover paper   |
| <b>NFNPA 265/08:</b> | Minerals Plan Development Plan Document Submission Draft          |
| <b>NFNPA 206/07:</b> | Minerals Plan Development Plan Document Preferred Options         |
| <b>NFNPA 192/07:</b> | Minerals and Waste Core Strategy: Inspector's Report and Adoption |

**Background Documents:**

[Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and New Forest Core Strategy](#)

[Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and New Forest Core Strategy – High Court Challenge Order](#)

[Hampshire, Portsmouth, Southampton and New Forest Minerals Plan Submission Draft](#)

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**NFNPA 311/09**

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## **UPDATE ON MINERALS AND WASTE PLANNING FOR THE NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK**

**Report by:** Sarah Applegate, Senior Planning Policy Officer

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 This report summarises the work to date on three planning policy documents covering the National Park on Minerals and Waste, and outlines the next steps in the process. These documents are prepared in conjunction with partner authorities of Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils, and cover the administrative areas of each authority.

### **2 Core Strategy**

- 2.1 The Hampshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy was adopted in June 2007, and covers the whole of the National Park.
- 2.2 Following a successful legal challenge on the Core Strategy by Associated British Ports policies S13 (Wharves and Rail Depots), S14 (Safeguarding of Existing Development) and DC18 (Wharves and Rail Depots) and corresponding text were quashed by the High Court in July 2008.

### **3 Minerals Plan**

- 3.1 The Minerals Plan is a daughter document to the Core Strategy, and once adopted will deliver a number of the key elements in the Core Strategy by identifying locations for mineral extraction and landfill.
- 3.2 Members will recall endorsing the Submission version of the Minerals Plan in July 2008 (NFNPA 265/08). It identifies a number of new and existing sites in areas around the National Park to meet the sand and gravel requirements.
- 3.3 The intention was to gather representations on the 'soundness' of this document in autumn 2008 before submitting it to the Secretary of State. However, this has not been submitted and has been put on hold pending an assessment of the implications of the successful legal challenge on the Core Strategy.

## **4 Waste Plan**

- 4.1 The Waste Plan is also a daughter document to the Core Strategy, and once adopted will deliver a number of the key elements in the Core Strategy by identifying locations for resource management and waste recovery and disposal.
- 4.2 Informal consultation was undertaken in September 2006 on the options for new waste provision and sites, with a six week period of formal consultation on a 'Sites Discussion Paper' ending on 19 June 2007.
- 4.3 Subsequently work on progressing the Waste Plan was deferred pending work on the Core Strategy and Minerals Plan.

## **5 Next Steps**

### *Implications of the Legal Challenge*

- 5.1 There are a number of implications arising from the successful legal challenge on the Core Strategy which will need to be considered, not least of which is the need to consider how important it is to replace those policies that have been quashed. If required, this could be done by an early review of the Core Strategy focussing largely on those policies and the issues relating to wharves and depots.

### *Review of the Regional Apportionment*

- 5.2 On 2 March 2009 the South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) submitted to the Secretary of State their review of policy M3 of the South East Plan on minerals apportionment and is pressing the Government significantly to reduce the regional target for land-won sand and gravel better to reflect recent sales trends. This is out for consultation until 26 June and will be subject to an Examination in October this year.
- 5.3 The Core Strategy and Minerals Plan will need to be consistent with the targets in the regional spatial strategy. The Minerals Plan has been based on one of the options proposed in the SEERA consultation document which has a reduced requirement for sand and gravel. This is a lower figure than that set out in the adopted Core Strategy.
- 5.4 Consequently it is likely that the Minerals Plan will need to remain on hold until the apportionment figure is agreed at a regional level, and has been reflected in the Core Strategy by way of an early review.
- 5.5 Officers of the partner authorities are currently assessing the options for progressing the Core Strategy Review, Minerals Plan and Waste Plan, including seeking a legal opinion.

## **6 Recommendation**

**To note the contents of this report.**