

Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan – Partial Update

[Main Modifications Consultation](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

1. What is a Minerals and Waste Plan?

A Minerals and Waste Plan sets out how the area will provide a supply of minerals to meet local construction needs (homes, roads etc), and appropriate locations and approach to deal with waste, such as recycling sites. All Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities are legally required to have a plan in place to ensure sufficient mineral supply and appropriate waste management.

The Plan sets out the framework, planning applications must then be submitted, these are judged against the Plan – are they in the locations that have been allocated for this purpose and do they meet all of the policy requirements. Only once planning permission is granted can any development take place.

2. Who is preparing the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan?

Hampshire County Council, Portsmouth City Council, Southampton City Council, the New Forest National Park Authority and the South Downs National Park Authority (collectively referred to as the 'Hampshire Authorities') are working together to prepare a partial update to the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan (adopted 2013).

3. Why is this a partial update?

The previous plan was adopted in 2013 and set out policies and identified sites to meet the Counties' needs to 2030. It is now necessary to update the plan and ensure ongoing needs are met to 2040. This is called a 'partial update' because some of the 2013 adopted plan is still relevant and can be carried forward to the new plan.

4. Where are we in the process?

The Hampshire Minerals Waste Plan has been through the first statutory consultation which took place from November 2022 to January 2023, under Regulation 18 (of the Local Planning (England) Regulations 2012). The Hampshire authorities made changes to the Plan based on the consultation responses and further work.

The Proposed Submission Plan was consulted on for eight weeks, beginning on 9 January 2024 and ending 5 March 2024, under Regulation 19 (of the Local Planning (England) Regulations 2012). The Proposed Submission Plan, the

evidence base and all representations received were then submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

Examination Hearings for the submitted Plan took place between 4th and 13th February 2025. A number of Action Points were agreed between the Planning Inspector and the Hampshire Authorities including further technical assessment of the Purple Haze proposed allocation.

An additional hearing was also held on 9th September 2025 regarding the Purple Haze proposed allocation.

Following these hearings, Proposed Main Modifications to the Submission Plan are being published. The Main Modifications are considered necessary to ensure that the Plan is legally compliant and/or sound. A Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) (SA/SEA) and Habitats Regulation Assessment has been undertaken of the Proposed Main Modifications.

5. What happened to my response to previous consultations?

Comments during Regulation 18 were considered, alongside all the other responses and further work that the team completed, and the Plan was amended accordingly. Please see the [Update Report](#) for an overview of what was changed in the [Proposed Submission Plan](#) as a result of issues raised.

Comments during Regulation 19 were passed on to the Inspector who fully considered them and held Examination Hearings to address key issues.

6. What happens next?

The Proposed Main Modifications and Policies Map Changes will be subject to consultation between **9am 4th December 2025 and 11:59pm 12th February 2026**. The Authorities are publishing a schedule of Additional Modifications, for information only.

Through this consultation the Authorities are inviting representations on the tests of 'soundness' and legal compliance of the Proposed Main Modifications and Policies Map Changes only. Responses must refer to these tests otherwise they may not be considered by the Inspector.

7. Who is notified of the start of the consultation?

Everyone on the minerals and waste consultation database – this includes:

- all the statutory stakeholders (such as District and Parish Councils and organisation such as the Environment Agency and Historic England);
- Hampshire Authorities' Councillors (or Members);
- Neighbouring Local Authorities;
- Hampshire Members of Parliament;

- anyone that has responded to the previous consultation (unless they have specifically asked us to unsubscribe them from further updates).

Notices will also be placed in local papers, in line with the notices for planning applications.

The [HMWP - Partial Update webpage](#) will also be updated.

8. How is the Plan and any proposed modifications to the Plan examined?

The Plan is examined by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State, whose role is to assess whether the plan has been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate, legal and procedural requirements, and whether it is sound.

A local planning authority should submit a plan for (public) examination which it considers is 'sound' – namely it is:

- Positively prepared – the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development.
- Justified – the plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence.
- Effective – the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities.
- Consistent with national policy – the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework.

The Proposed Main Modifications are considered necessary to ensure that the Plan is legally compliant and/or sound.

9. What is a 'sound' Plan?

The criteria for whether a plan is 'Sound' is set out in paragraph 36¹ of the NPPF.

To be considered sound, the Minerals and Waste Plan needs to be:

- Positively Prepared: Has the Plan been positively prepared? Is it based on a strategy that provides for development and infrastructure needs and have these have been delivered sustainably? If you think that our assessments are not objective or do not take sufficient account of unmet needs in neighbouring authorities, then your comments relate to whether our Local Plan has been

¹ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/67aafe8f3b41f783cca46251/NPPF_December_2024.pdf

positively prepared or not.

- **Justification test:** Is the Plan justified? This means that the Plan is based upon a robust and credible evidence base and is the most appropriate strategy against all reasonable alternatives. If you think that the evidence does not support the recommendations made, then your comments relate to whether it is justified.

- **Effectiveness test:** Is the Plan effective? This means that the Plan will deliver what it sets out to do. The plan should be deliverable and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities. If you think that the proposals in the Plan will not happen as the sites cannot be provided, the groups who deliver elements are not signed up or the Plan does not join up with strategies of neighbouring authorities, then your comments relate to whether the Plan is effective or not.

- **Consistent with national policy:** Is the Plan consistent with national policy? Does it enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework?

10. Will the sites identified in the plan ('site allocations') still require planning permission?

Yes, the aim of the plan-making process is to identify sites that are considered suitable in principle for development. More specific site details are required as part of a planning application. Allocating a site does not mean that a site will be granted planning permission. Planning permission will still be required before any development can take place. Any planning application will be judged against the relevant policies in the Plan on its own merits, and there is no guarantee that a planning application will be granted permission just because the land has been previously identified as suitable through an allocation.

Any planning application for development at an allocated site would need to address all development considerations identified in the Plan (see Appendix A of the Submission Plan). Similarly, any proposal would also need to comply with all other relevant policies in the Plan, including policies relating to the environment (climate change, habitats and species, landscape, historic environment and restoration etc) and amenity (protection of health, safety and amenity, flood risk, design, and sustainable traffic etc).

11. What happens after the consultation?

All the comments will be made available to view publicly in accordance with the [General Data Protection Regulations \(2018\)](#) and the [Local Government Act \(1985\)](#) for the purposes of preparing planning policy documents until adoption. In accordance with national legislation and guidance, the name(s) of those making representations, will appear on our website. Every effort will be made to remove other personal details including telephone numbers, email addresses and signatures prior to being uploaded. The comments will also be passed on to the

Inspector. Following consideration of all the representations, the Inspector will decide whether any further hearings are necessary, or if any issues need to be revisited. At the end of the examination process, the Inspector will present their final conclusions in a binding report. If the Plan is found legally compliant and 'sound', it then goes back through the democratic process for Councillors/Members of the Hampshire Authorities to decide if they wish to adopt it.