ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2005-2006 WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The statutory requirement for this, second, Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is to address the adequacy of the Council's Planning Policies for the period for the financial year, 1st April 2005 to 31st March 2006.

The Report therefore includes:-

- Details of progress on implementing the Council's Mineral and Waste Development Scheme;
- An assessment of the effectiveness of how saved policies are being implemented; and
- Possible proposals for the future.

Other matters, including:

- A short summary of the physical and economic background of the County with an emphasis of how these relate to minerals and waste issues
- A note on the relationship between the Annual Monitoring Report and the Community Strategy, and
- Details of the policies themselves.

At the request of the Government Office for the West Midlands, this AMR is shorter than that for the previous year, with more matters included in Appendices

Minerals and Waste Development Scheme

The Council is on target with the preparation of all its proposed Local Development Documents (the Statement of Community Involvement, Waste Core Strategy, and Waste Proposals Map). The Local Development Scheme will be reconsidered and rolled forward in 2007.

Monitoring of Saved Policies Minerals:

Current national policy is that the County should have minimum landbanks of 7 years for sand and gravel and 10 years for crushed rock.

The most up to date assessment from publicly available information (the West Midlands Regional Aggregates Working Party Annual Report for 2004) are that Worcestershire had landbanks of 6.4 years for sand and gravel and less than 10 years for crushed rock at 31st December 2004. In practice officer estimates are that landbanks were even lower during the period 2005-06.

For reasons of business confidentiality separate figures for crushed rock production and reserves cannot be published for Worcestershire. The Council is concerned however that its productive capacity and landbank for crushed rock will not realise the County sub regional apportionment and that its policies to ensure the production of crushed rock need re-assessment.

The position for sand and gravel is better but still not adequate. Two of the Preferred Areas for extraction identified in the Minerals Local Plan remain unworked and (at December 2006) there are two undetermined applications for planning permission to work other sites. If these were to be given permission they could postpone the need for a review of the Local Plan policies, so far as Sand and Gravel supply is concerned. The Council intends however to begin pre-commencement work and evidence gathering during 2007 with a view to including a Minerals Core Strategy in its Local Development Scheme during the year.

Waste:

The Council's saved Structure Plan policies for waste set out criteria to guide the location of waste management criteria and their assessment in accordance with its adopted BPEO (Best Practical Environmental Option) Strategy. The policies comply with some of the waste policies in the Regional Spatial Strategy but are not in complete accord with government policy as set out in PPS10. The analysis confirms the need for a Waste Core Strategy Local Development Document and one is currently in preparation. It does however also demonstrate that the use of criteria based policies is effective in enabling waste management facilities to be developed in Worcestershire, confirming the appropriateness of the Council's current proposal not to prepare a site specific DPD for waste management uses.

Future Proposals

The report also identifies possible areas of interest for future monitoring.

Difficulties in Producing this Report

The report has highlighted limitations in the availability of data regarding:

- Waste Management Treatment and capacity; and particularly that for
- The treatment of Construction and Demolition Waste

The difficulties regarding the availability of information on Aggregate production identified in the AMR for 2004-05 have however largely been overcome and future AMRs should increasingly be based on more sound data.

The Council has undertaken a Sustainability Appraisal of its proposed Waste Core Strategy. Subsequent Annual Monitoring reports will include indicators and targets developed as part of this work.

2. ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT – OBJECTIVES

2.1 Background

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced substantial changes to the land use planning system in the UK. As part of which existing Development Plans will be replaced by Local Development Documents. The existing Worcestershire County Structure Plan and Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan have been "saved" until 28th September 2007. Between now and then the Council will have

- (1) submitted a Waste Core Strategy to the Secretary of State to replace the saved Structure Plan waste policies,
- (2) begun pre-commencement work on a Minerals Core Strategy,
- (3) agreed a revision to the Local Development Scheme, rolling it forward to 2010, and
- (4) agreed with the Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM) and the Regional Planning Body (RPB) which Structure Plan policies are to be saved beyond 28th September 2007 and the mechanisms for their subsequent consideration.

The new Development Plan documents have to be kept under constant review and amended or replaced as necessary. Under Section 35 of the Act the Council must produce an Annual Monitoring Report to assess progress on the preparation of its Local Development Documents, the appropriateness of the Council's policies for Mineral and Waste planning and the need for changes to them. This is the Council's second Annual Monitoring Report of its Minerals and Waste Development Scheme and is submitted to meet that requirement. Future Annual Monitoring reports will be produced to cover the period from the beginning of each financial year and will themselves evolve in response to changing circumstances.

The Council is committed to extending public involvement in its work particularly in connection with its planning policies. Please contact us if you would like to comment on the report generally or can suggest targets or indicators in other plans, policies or proposals which future annual Monitoring Reports could consider. However, because the whole Local Development system is still in its infancy and the Council has very limited resources at present, it may not be able to address issues not referred to in this report for some years.

If you would like further information or to comment on the contents of this report please contact:

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2.2 Objectives of the Monitoring Report

- **2.1.1** The objectives of the Annual Monitoring Report are to:
 - Review the progress of implementing the Local Development Scheme particularly whether the Council is meeting the timetables and milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme;
 - Provide realistic and useful indicators, targets and information to assess the effectiveness of the policies being implemented. The purpose is to examine if policies are achieving their objectives; and
 - Determine whether objectives are having an effect on the wider social, environmental and economic objectives within the Community Strategy and achieving outcomes which are consistent with sustainable development objectives.

2.3 Structure of Report

2.3.1 The report is set out in eight sections:

Part 1 – Executive Summary

Part 2 - Background

Part 3 – Progress on the Local Development Framework.

Parts 4, 5 and 6, an assessment of the existing Development Plan policies.

Part 7 – Community Involvement

Part 8 – Limitations and proposals for the future

and appendices addressing some matters in detail.

The AMR assesses policies included in the existing County Structure Plan 1996-2011 and Minerals Local Plan 1994-2004 and indicators and data to assess the effect of existing policies in the following policy areas:

- **Core output indicators** as outlined in Local Development Framework Monitoring – A Good Practice Guide (ODPM 2005) are aligned with the policy area they relate to. Quantifiable data is provided against each of these where available.
- Other indicators such as **local indicators** and **best value performance indicators** are used where relevant to assess and monitor particular policies.
- Targets, where applicable, are provided for indicators where they are provided in the Development Plan.
- A brief analysis, in italics, is included to interpret the data presented.

Possible proposals for future Annual Monitoring Reports are also noted in italics.

Context and Background for the AMR

The Community Strategy provides the strategic framework to which local strategies link and connect. A note on the Community Strategy and weblink is attached as Appendix 1.

A summary of the context for the Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme and a summary of the nature of the County, issues relating to Mineral and Waste Planning and web links to the County State of the Environment report and County Economic Assessment 2005-06 are attached as Appendix 2.

Minerals and Waste Issues: Economic Significance

The Mineral and Waste management industries in Worcestershire are not significant in terms of the numbers of people directly employed or their financial value to the County's economy (although they may be locally important at the Parish level and future AMRs may explore this). Their small scale however belies the significance mineral and waste development has in terms of sustainability and the considerable potential it has to enhance or, if inadequately addressed, to harm the environment. It also conceals the fact that the minerals and waste industries are fundamental to the workings of the economy, true primary industries on which all other economic activity depends and cannot function without. The Mineral and Waste Development Framework for Worcestershire will reflect this significance.

3. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME DELIVERY

This section of the report gives details of progress in implementing the Council's Mineral and Waste Development Scheme.

Objective: to comply with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004: particularly Part 2, Sections 14, 16, 18 and 19

Core Output Indicator: Compliance with Regulation 48: Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004

Achievements:

Regulation 48 (3a)

The Minerals and Waste Development Scheme was revised in April 2006. Documents specified in Schedule 2 of the Scheme are:-

- Statement of Community Involvement
- Waste Core Strategy (DPD)
- Waste Proposals Map (DPD)

Regulation 48 (3b)(i)(ii)

The timetable specified for the production of these documents is: From Appendix 1 Mineral and Waste Development Scheme

Table 1

Development	Stage of	2004		20	05			20	06			20	07	
document	Preparation	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Statement of Community Involvement	Scoping													
	Pre- submission Consultation													
	Submission to Secretary of State													
	Proposed date for Adoption													
Waste Core Strategy	Evidence Gathering													
	Preparing issues and options in consultation – pre- submission consultation Public participation on Preferred Option													

	Submission to Secretary of State							
	Proposed date of Adoption							
Waste Proposals Map	Evidence gathering							

Regulation 48 (3c), (d), (e) and (f) No documents specified or local development orders were adopted, approved or revoked between 31st March 2005 and 1st April 2006.

Regulation 48(4) and (5)

4. ANALYSIS OF POLICIES IN EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PLANS

4.1 MINERAL ISSUES

All building works and some manufacturing processes require minerals in some form. The geological presence of suitable minerals and the commercial costs of working them determine areas where suitable raw materials can be extracted. Local extraction and use of minerals reduces construction costs, increases local employment and spending power and minimises some strategic impacts such as road traffic, but inevitably incurs impacts on local environments and for people living in and around the sites. On the positive side, however, mineral workings can create both ephemeral and permanent habitats, some of which are specifically encouraged in national and County Biodiversity Action Plans and significant new land forms, some of which, notably rock faces, lakes and reed beds are locally very scarce.

4.2 Regional Trends

The Regional Spatial Strategy aims to concentrate development over the period up until 2021 into the conurbation and larger urban areas of the West Midlands. The reuse of brownfield land as part of this process is likely to release large volumes of recycled materials for aggregate use. It is not clear if the rate of redevelopment, particularly where concentrated in limited areas, e.g. the Black Country Study, could have implications for aggregates supply at an inter-Regional scale.

4.3 Revisions to Regional Policy

The distribution of future development within the region is likely to change the distribution and movement of aggregates within the region, increasing flows on the major transport routes into the conurbation and could have implications for sub-regional, e.g. County supply. Phase 2 of the Review of the RSS is likely to be fundamentally important in this regard. It is not possible at present however to assess what its effects might be.

Table 3 - Crushed Rock (Limestone)

Quarry	Operator	QPA Member	Environ Designation	Aggregate Sales 2005	Reserves at 31/04/06
Broadway	Smith & Son (Bletchington)	Yes	AONB	Aggregates: Building Stone: Agric use:	Yes
TOTAL Aggregate Purposes				Confidential	Yes
TOTAL Non Aggregate Purposes				Confidential	Yes
(Source: WMRAW	′P)				

Clay (Sales Figures are not supplied to RAWP)

Quarry	Operator	Environ Designation	Clay Sales 2005	Reserves 31/12/05
New House Farm	Baggeridge Brick	Green Belt	Yes	Yes
Waresley	Baggeridge Brick	Green Belt	Yes	Yes

4.6 Minerals Local Plan Allocations Unimplemented to Date

The County of Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan identified one Preferred Area for extraction for crushed rock and eight Preferred Areas for extraction for sand and gravel in Worcestershire; applications for 3 of these, have yet to be made (at December 2006). All are sand and gravel sites.

Ripple (480,000 tonnes) – No application for planning permission yet made. **Ryall North** (600,000 tonnes) – No application for planning permission yet made.

Strensham (800,000 tonnes) – Planning application submitted, undetermined at time of writing.

If permitted the sites at Ripple, Ryall North and Strensham would release material equal to about 2 years supply of sand and gravel.

4.7 Analysis Of Effectiveness In Meeting Regional Spatial Strategy Policies: Minerals

Objective: Achievement of Regional Spatial Strategy Policy M1A

Purpose: In summary the aim of the policy is to ensure that adequate provision is made for the supply of minerals, in particular to:

- (i) be consistent with the principles of sustainable development
- (ii) maintain landbanks of non-energy minerals
- (iii) consider alternative sources of material
- (iv) take account of other national and regional policies, and
- (v) make sufficient provision to comply with RSS Policy M2

Core Output Indicators:

That the Landbank of Permitted Sand and Gravel Reserves should be at least 7 years

Actual Landbank for Worcestershire at 31^{st} December 2006 = about 5 years (officer estimate)

That the Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves should be at least 10 years

Actual Landbank in Worcestershire at 31st December 2006 = significantly below 10 years (officer estimate)

NB: Only one quarry produces crushed rock in Worcestershire; for reasons of confidential sensitivity details cannot be shown.

Local targets

No local targets are necessary. It is an indicator of how appropriate policies are if (1) applications can be determined in accordance with policy, or (2) where departures can be determined in accordance with officer recommendations that appropriate material circumstances apply.

Applications for mineral development determined 1st April 2005-31st March 2006

One application was determined (and approved) during the year, none were withdrawn

Details:

CTC 8 (protection of floodplain)

CTC 11 (Sites of national wildlife importance)

CTC 12 (Sites of regional or local wildlife importance)

CTC 13 (Protection of species)

CTC 14 (Protection of features of nature conservation importance)

CTC 15 (Enhancement of biodiversity)

CTC 17 (Protection of archaeological sites of regional or local importance) M1 Preferred Areas

M3 Protection of Mineral Resources

M4 Cumulative Impact

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan.

2 Other Sand and Gravel Deposits

8 Highway Improvements

10 Progressive restoration

11 Reclamation generally

12 Restoration to agriculture

13 Restoration to water uses

14 Restoration to nature conservation, forestry and recreation

15 Maintenance of environmental standards

16 Treatment of public rights of way

Non Aggregate Minerals

Worcestershire also contains resources of other, non-aggregate minerals. The Regional Spatial Strategy draws attention to these in paras. 8.5.7 and 8.5.8 and emphasises that some of these are of national and regional importance.

In particular reserves of brick clay and salt exist in the Triassic and Mercian mudstone strata in the north of the County. Of these:

<u>Salt:</u> Production ceased in the 1970's. No amendments to policy are considered necessary at present.

<u>Clay</u>: Is worked at two sites in Hartlebury, which supply one significant brickworks (Baggeridge Brick).

Extraction commenced at New House Farm during the year, a site which has about a 30 year landbank. The other site, at Waresley, has been worked for some time and has a smaller, but nonetheless significant landbank. Together these are more than enough to provide the 25 years' supply of clay recommended in MPS1.

<u>Building Stone</u>: Building stone is currently only produced at one quarry, Fish Hill, as ancillary to aggregate production. The material produced, Oolitic Limestone, is used in only a few parishes in the south western corner of the County. Sales are mostly into Gloucestershire, where numerous comparable sites exist. The Council does not consider it necessary to define landbanks for this building stone. Other building stones have only been used to a limited extent in Worcestershire. Demand is very limited and no quarries have been granted specific planning permission solely for its production since 1947 in Worcestershire. The Council will keep the need for specific policies for this material under review but no changes are proposed at present.

<u>Silicia Sand</u>: The Wildmoor Sandstone Formation is worked in the Bromsgrove area to produce foundry sand from a naturally bonded sandstone and building sand. The decline of the foundry industry and availability of synthetic alternatives has reduced demand for this material. It is listed as being of national importance in MPG13. Two quarries currently produce this material, both have significant reserves.

Analysis: Non Aggregate Materials

No applications for mineral working which would be a departure from the policies have been granted planning permissions by the Council at Appeal. There are no other reasons at present to believe that any of these policies are not appropriate or need amendment at present so far as non aggregate minerals are concerned.

Saved Development Plan policies relevant to achieving RSS Policy MIA

Structure Plan Policies:

SD1 Prudent Use of Natural Resources
SD2 Care for the Environment
M3 Extraction: Protection of Natural and Environmental Assets
M4 Restoration and After Use
M5 Protection of Abberley and Malvern Hills

Minerals Local Plan Policies

- 2 Criteria; Sand and Gravel Extraction, not preferred areas
- 4 Cumulative impact of workings
- 5 Abberley Hills Quarrying Policy
- 7 Preferred hard rock extraction areas
- 8 Highway Implications
- 9 Restoration, by use of fill
- 10 Progressive restoration
- 11 Reclamation generally
- 12 Restoration to agriculture
- 13 Restoration to water uses
- 14 Restoration to nature conservation, forestry and recreation
- 15 Maintenance of environmental standards
- 16 Treatment of public rights of way

Analysis: Aggregate Minerals

100% of applications for planning permission (including withdrawals) were permitted. No applications for mineral working, which would be a departure from these policies, have been granted planning permission by the Council or at appeal. Given this fact and that several significant designation for Preferred Areas for Mineral Extraction for aggregates in the Adopted (saved) Minerals Local Plan remain unimplemented there are no reasons to believe that any of these policies are not appropriate or need amendment at present so far as aggregate provision is concerned.

4.11 Objective: Achievement of Regional Spatial Strategy M1 (B)

Purpose: to ensure that development plans provide for adequate mineral supply without adversely affecting matters of acknowledged importance.

Relevant Indicators RSS Policy M1B

For example, Development Plans should

- (i) identify and safeguard mineral resources
- (ii) identify where future mineral working would/would not be appropriate
- (iii) include policies to indicate the circumstances under which mineral working might be permitted
- (iv) identify and safeguard opportunities for alternative forms for the transportation of minerals
- (v) include policies to safeguard mineral resources
- (vi) subject to Green Belt policies, identify and safeguard sites on the periphery of and within MUAs for the development of integrated material supply facilities
- (vii) protect and seek improvements to biodiversity.

Local Targets

The Structure Plan monitoring indicators include:

 number and percentage of mineral applications refused on environmental grounds

Achievement No applications were refused.

• number and percentage of mineral applications permitted/modified related to need/environmental factors/quality of restoration or aftercare

Achievement:

One application was permitted during 2005-06. (Extension to Clifton Quarry, ref: 407531 Approved 27.01.06). Conditions were imposed to modify the proposal to protect matters of acknowledged importance relating to the amenities of local people and restoration of the site.

1 (one)

% modified 100%

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy M1B

Structure Plan Policies

M3 (Mineral Extraction)

P15 (Freight Goods Transfer)

- T17 (Retention of Rail Property)
- T18 (Improvements to the River Severn)
- SD1 (Prudent Use of Natural Resources
- SD6 (Location of development in urban areas)
- SD7 (Sequential approach to development)
- SD8 (Development in sustainable rural settlements)
- CTC 1 (Protection of landscape character)
- CTC 2 (Protection of skylines and hill features)
- CTC 3 (Protection of AONBs)
- CTC 4 (Protection of AGLV)
- CTC 5 (Protection of trees, woodlands and hedges)
- CTC 7 (Protection of agricultural land)
- CTC 8 (protection of floodplain)
- CTC 9 (Impact on water courses and aquifers)
- CTC 10 (Protection of sites of international wildlife importance)
- CTC 11 (Sites of national wildlife importance)
- CTC 12 (Sites of regional or local wildlife importance)
- CTC 13 (Protection of species)
- CTC 14 (Protection of features of nature conservation importance)
- CTC 15 (Enhancement of biodiversity)
- CTC 16 (Protection of archaeological sites of national importance)
- CTC 17 (Protection of archaeological sites of regional or local importance)
- CTC 18 (Enhance of archaeological sites)
- CTC 19 (Protection of areas and features of archaeological significance)
- CTC 20 (Protection of conservation areas)
- CTC 21 (Reuse of buildings)

Minerals Local Plan Policies

15 Maintenance of Environmental Standards 16 Rights of Way

Analysis

There is no evidence at present that the saved policies are failing to protect matters of acknowledged importance or to achieve the other concepts listed in RSS policy M1B. However the Council is concerned that it does not have as sound a basis for the assessment of applications which could adversely affect mineral resources safeguarded under Structure Plan Policy M2 and Minerals Local Plan policy 3 as it would like. The issue of how to make safeguarding more effective is a common concern amongst MPAs and the ODPM is funding trials in other Counties to address it. The issue will be important for the proposed Minerals Core Strategy and will be explored during 2007.

4.8 Objective: Achievement of RSS policy M2

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is to ensure an adequate and regular supply of aggregates over the period of the RSS, to enable economic growth to be sustained. Specifically, RSS policy M2 sets out the following sub-regional apportionment for Worcestershire for the period 2001-2016 (million tonnes/per annum).

Core Output Indicator: to meet the RSS sub regional annual apportionment for Worcestershire of:

Sand and Gravel	Crushed Rock	Crushed Rock
2001-2016	2001-2005	2006-16
0.871	0.163	0.163

(WMRAWP Sub-Regional Apportionment October 2003)

Achievement

Information on primary aggregate production for Mineral Planning Authorities (MPAs) is collected annually by each MPA from operating companies on behalf of the WMRAWP. This information is:

- a requested annually (by calendar year)
- b in arrears
- c provided on a confidential and voluntary basis

returns are collected by MPAs and forwarded to the WMRAWP Secretary for agglomeration, in a way that protects commercial sensitivity, for subsequent publication in the WMRAWP Annual Report.

In the circumstances, the only figures publicly available for primary extraction of aggregates for Worcestershire are for the period 1^{st} January to 31^{st} . December 2004, i.e. sales of sand and gravel = an estimated 850,000 tonnes. Sales of crushed rock cannot be released for reasons of business confidentiality. (Source: WMRAWP Annual Report 2004)

Sales of primary extraction aggregates in the County are relatively stable, follow regional trends and have not been affected by any significant local developments, there is no reason to believe that the 2005 figures will be significantly different from those stated above. Confidential information seen by Officers confirms that this is likely the case.

Productive Capacity: In order to be capable of meeting the RAWP apportionment the County needs sufficient productive units to produce the volumes necessary. A possible indicator is the number of productive units and their plant capacity.

Number of productive units operational in 2005/6:

Sand and gravel 8	(Productive capacity not limited by planning condition)
Crushed rock 1	(Productive Capacity not limited by planning condition)

Local Targets

No specific targets for meeting aggregates supply are set out in the saved development plans but Policy M1 of the Structure Plan makes the County's commitment to meet national and regional policy guidelines for aggregate sales. The core output indicator for these matters is set out above and is measured in terms of tonnage. A local target to assess output in terms of the percentage of actual regional production could usefully be set. In this case the targets are:

- Sand and Gravel apportionment 8.6% of regional production
- Actual achievement (2004 figures) = 9.3% (Target exceeded)
- Crushed rock apportionment 2.8% of regional production
- Actual achievement not released for reasons of business confidentiality targets not achieved

(Source: WMRAWP Annual Report 2004)

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy M2

County Structure Plan Policy M1 (to meet the County share of regional production)

4.9 Objective: Achievement of RSS policy M3

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is to encourage the use of secondary aggregates and recycling.

The National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregate Permission in England 2001-2016 assume that in the West Midlands 88 million tonnes (24.5%) of the 359 million tonnes necessary will come from recycled and alternative sources. This amounts to 5.5 million tonnes per annum throughout the period of the Guidelines. In 2001 it was estimated that around 5 million tonnes of recycled and other alternative materials were reused in the West Midlands (Symonds Group Surveys for 2001). In order to increase this figure to the required level of 5.5 million tonnes and thus minimise the risk of needing to exploit additional primary aggregate sources, the amount of construction and demolition material that needs to be recycled per capita needs to rise across the region from 0.7 tonnes per annum to 0.8 tonnes per annum, assuming the supply from other sources remain constant. Accurate estimates of the amount of recycled construction and demolition waste being managed are extremely difficult to find, but the British Geological Survey quotes the Quarry Product Association's estimate that recycled and secondary aggregates now account for 24 to 25% of the total aggregate market in Britain. (BGS UK Minerals Year Book 2004). The West Midlands Regional Technical Advisory Body for Waste Annual Monitoring Report for 2005 stated however:

"The amount of construction and demolition waste produced in the Region is estimated to have reduced from 8.6 million tonnes in 2001 to 8.1 million tonnes in 2003. In 2001/02 the total estimated construction and demolition waste arising in the Region was 8.6 million tonnes, of which half was recycled, 46% was used on exempt sites for engineering and land restoration purposes, and just 5% was landfilled. By 2003, the quantity of C & D waste produced in the Region had reduced by 6% to 8.13 million tonnes, the proportion recycled increased from 50% to 61% (the highest performance for any region in England), and the quantity of material used at exempt sites halved (to the lowest level of any region other than London). Indications are that at least some parts of the construction industry are securing significant reductions in

Local Targets

There are no specific targets in PPS10 or either the County Structure Plan or Minerals Local Plan for the use of alternatives to naturally occurring aggregates or other minerals.

Secondary/recycled aggregates are produced in two ways:

- at sites with specific planning permission for such production, and
- at "other" sites where processing takes place in association with recycling activities

Sites with specific planning permission:

In Worcestershire only one site has a specific planning permission for such production. The operator mothballed the site after less than one year on the grounds that no regular supply of material could be obtained.

The Council is aware that specific waste transfer stations do crush materials on site and that their sites have a maximum permitted level of activity in their Waste Management Licences. There is no basis for assessing what proportion of this output is recycled into aggregates.

Other Sites:

In reality, production is likely to be much larger from "other" sites. Mostly onsite production of recycled materials from demolition contractors, who now The Council's (five year) highway management contract with Ringway includes provisions to realise the Cabinet's commitment to recycle as much material as possible, notably that:

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4.10 Objective: In summary, the aim is achievement of Regional Spatial Strategy Policy M4

Purpose: to ensure that development plans make adequate provision for the exploitation of energy mineral resources.

Background

The British Geological Survey states "Hydrocarbons: the prospects for

5. ANALYSIS OF POLICIES IN EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PLAN: WASTE ISSUES

5.1 Waste Issues

"People produce waste, it is a fact of life; a fact we cannot change". (DEFRA Website) The nature of the materials discarded and public recognition of the pollution and climate change effects created, the unsustainability of current practices and the environmental and economic costs generated, mean that waste management is now an increasing political priority. However it is now the case that waste production is increasing at a slower rate than economic growth. This is an important change since last year's AMR

5.2 Context

5.2.1 National Trends

In England and Wales government incentives and targets for the treatment of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) have begun to reduce the rate of increase and the percentage recycled, composted or recovered. Industrial and Commercial Waste (I & C) and Construction and Demolition (C & D) waste, which represent ³/₄ of all waste produced are beginning to be seen as resources capable of use and costs which can be reduced. Up to date information on all waste streams is poor, particularly regarding C & I and C & D waste. Since last year's AMR was produced the National Waste Data Strategy has been started to improve both the quality and timeliness of information on all of these waste streams. Future Annual Monitoring Reports should be able to reflect this. At the local level, however, the lack of accurate information, especially on C & I and C & D waste is still a serious problem for policy development and monitoring.

5.3 Context: Regional Trends

MSW: The West Midlands Region produced just over 3 million tonnes of MSW in 2005-06 to the best level since 2001-02. Total MSW waste arisings increased by 11% between 1998-99 and 2003-04 but may now be reducing.

MSW Landfill: In 2005-06 just under half (53%) of the region's MSW was disposed of to landfill (a reduction in proportional terms from 60% in 1998-99 and 54% in 2002-03, with absolute reductions in 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2005-06). The West Midlands continues to have the lowest reliance on landfill of all English regions. By 2004-05 with a rate of 51% the Region has increased its rates of recovery value from MSW yet again, exceeding its targets (2005 40% and 2010 45%), the highest rate of all English regions.

MSW Recycling: The MSW recycling rate has increased from 8% (1998-99) to 20% (2005-06) but is below the average for England of 26.7% and below the target of 25% for 2005. EU landfill targets to progressively reduce the amount of biodegradable waste landfilled in 1995 (1.17 million tonnes) have been exceeded for both 2005 and 2010.

C & I: Revisions of the 2002-03 waste data by the Environment Agency show that regional production has fallen by 4% from 7.6 million tonnes in 1998-99 to 7.3 million tonnes in 2002-03. The amount of this material recycled has increased from 30% to 46% over the period, reducing the amount of material sent to landfill to about 2.9 million tonnes. The revisions show that, unfortunately, the region is NOT (as was mistakenly reported in the AMR for 2004-050) on track to achieve the national Waste Strategy and RSS target to reduce the proportion of Industrial and Commercial waste which is disposed of to landfill to at the most 85% of 1998 levels. Worcestershire has however achieved this target, see below.

Since 1998-99 industrial waste in the Region has fallen by 11%. There has however been an 8% increase in commercial waste, particularly in retail and wholesale, the textile and wood and paper sectors, reflecting changes in the Region's economic structure.

C & D: The 2005 Annual Monitoring Report stated that "Regional production fell from 8.6 million tonnes in 2001 to 8.1 million tonnes in 2003. The proportion recycled increased from 50% to 61%, the highest of any region in England and the quantity used at exempt sites halved, to the lowest level of any region other than London ((WMRTAB)." No more up to date information is available.

In general terms all the evidence is that the region is self-sufficient in waste management facilities. Further research by the RTAB should clarify this in 2007.

5.4 Potential Revisions to National and Regional Policy

Important additions to C & I waste streams are likely to develop as the End of Life Vehicles (ELV) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directives come into effect. Agricultural waste has been brought into the definition of Directive Waste. Facilities to manage these materials will therefore become necessary both regionally and locally.

Phase 2 of the review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands is beginning and should be adopted in Autumn 2008. Future Annual Monitoring Reports will include reference to the emerging and final targets produced as part of the Review.

A very positive development is the recognition at both national and regional level that waste recycling and recovery plants can increasingly be considered like any other industrial activity and can be located on any general industrial land. The Council's Waste Core Strategy is based on this assumption.

5.5 Local Context and Background: Policies

Currently Development Plan policies for waste for the County are set out in the Worcestershire County Structure Plan. The Council has also adopted a Joint Municipal

Waste Management Strategy with the six Worcestershire District Councils and Herefordshire. The Strategy sets out a Vision for waste management in the County, incorporates the Council's BPEO Strategy and sets out targets for participating authorities. During the year significant progress was made in developing the Council's Waste Core Strategy. The Council hope to submit it to the Secretary of State in January 2007. The statutory notification period should be over by early March. Any policies which have not been objected to will then become material considerations for Development Control purposes.

Total Approved 29

Applications refused

- 1. 407638 Waste transfer facility and skip storage yard, Causeway Meadows Farm, Stoke Works, Nr Bromsgrove –Refused 15.11.05
- 407637 Christopher, Brian and Stephen Jordan The Levelling and reseeding of agricultural pastureland to make it suitable for work with tractors – Refused 14.12.05

Total Refused 2

Applications Withdrawn

No applications were withdrawn during this period.

Treatment (In the sense of two district processes to treat materials enabling them to be reused/recycled/composted).

No applications for treatment were determined during this period.

Disposal

33. 407612- Clent Parish Council Formation of cricket pitch through importation of inert fill at Centenary Field, Off Holy Cross Green, Holy Cross, Clent – Approved 15.12.05 – 20,000m³

Total additional disposal capaccity – 20,000m³ (approx)

5.6 Objective: Achievement of RSS Policy WD1

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is that development plans should include proposals to meet the following regional targets:

- (i) to recover value from at least 40% of municipal waste by 2005; 45% by 2010 and 67% by 2015;
- (ii) to recycle or compost at least 25% of household waste by 2005; 30% by 2010 and 33% by 2015; and
- (iii) to reduce the proportion of industrial and commercial waste, which is disposed of to landfill to at the most 85% of 1998 by 2005.

Relevant indicator

Adoption of policies which implement these targets.

Key data

On 10th July 2003 the Council adopted a Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO) Strategy, inter alia that the BPEO for:

- MSW will be based on a minimum of 33% recycling/ composting and a maximum of 22% landfilling and any balance managed through a form of thermal treatment,
- Commercial and Industrial waste will be based on reducing landfill to 23%, increasing recycling to 73% and 4% dealt with by existing thermal treatment,
- Construction and Demolition Waste will be based on reducing landfill to 24%, increasing recycling to 76%.
- It will be important to retain an element of flexibility when considering applications for waste management facilities. Processes or technologies put forward as an alternative to those which comprise the BPEO for a particular waste stream will have to clearly demonstrate how the impact of that process or technology will be equal to or not significantly greater than those which have been modelled for the agreed BPEO.

Structure Plan Policy WD1 states that proposals for waste management must have regard to the adopted BPEO and principles of proximity, regional self-sufficiency and waste hierarchy.

Local Targets (Source: Worcestershire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and County Council Waste Management Section).

All figures are BVPI related figures based on assessments of Household (not Municipal) Waste. They do not include Soil and Hardcore from Household Waste Sites, Trade Waste, Collected Fly Tipped Waste or Parks Waste. All of which are recycled/composted to some degree but are not allowed to be included in the Council's records for recycled materials.

Targets are from the Joint Municipal Waste Strategy for Herefordshire and Worcestershire 2004-34.

Figures are from published audited sources, District and County websites.

Target 1: To achieve Government targets for recycling and composting of domestic waste by the end of 2003/04, 2005/06 and 2015/16, as a minimum

Achievements: Continued recycling scheme roll-outs in all districts has resulted in most Districts achieving their coverage targets. Worcester City and Redditch are now implementing an alternate weekly collection of residual waste and commingled recyclables in wheeled bins which should increase coverage to the 2005/06 target level.

Target 4: The Local Authorities within Herefordshire and Worcestershire will continue to promote and encourage participation in the household collection of recyclables to achieve 75% active participation by 2006

	Target Coverage	Participation %	Difference
Bromsgrove	75%	80%	5%
Malvern Hills	75%	75%	0%
Redditch	75%	70%	-5%
Worcester City	75%	76%	1%
Wychavon	75%	70%	-5%
Wyre Forest	75%	85%	10%
Herefordshire	75%	65%	-10%
Worcestershire	N/A	N/A	N/A

Target 6: By 2015 or earlier if practicable, a minimum of 33% of waste to be recycled and/or composted, 45% of waste to be recovered with a maximum of 22% to be landfilled as per the Best Practicable Environmental Option for Herefordshire and Worcestershire

	Recycled/composted	Recovered	Landfilled
Target 2015	33%	45%	22%
Current	29.76%	5.18%	65.06%

Achievements: We are well on the way to achieving these targets. Changes to kerbside collection schemes and investment in HWSs has improved recycling and composting levels. The planned development of a state of the art commingled MRF and Estech Fibrecycle autoclave facilities should be sufficient to meet these targets by 2015.

Target 7: To achieve the requirements of the Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 by December 31st 2010 to provide kerbside collection of at least two recyclable materials from all households (in conjunction with Target 3 above).

	Glass	Paper	Plastic	Textiles	Cans	Green]		
Bromsgrove	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y			
Malvern Hills	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N			
Redditch53.3803	Tm(Y)T	ETEMC]T	J-3.668	-1.1	46	Td(y	December	3

Achieve

5.7 Objective: Achievement of RSS Policy WD2

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is to ensure that adequate waste management and treatment facilities are provided and specifically that the following capacity is provided by 2021 in Worcestershire (as set out in tables 4 and 5 of the RSS).

Municipal Waste Recycling and Composting	Municipal Waste Recovery	Final Landfill Void (All Waste Streams)
Annual through-put capacity (100,000 tonnes) 159	Annual through- put capacity (100,000 tonnes) 164	Municipal (100,000 tonnes) 4,414 Industrial and commercial (100,000 tonnes) 6,883

and that accordingly the following additional MSW facilities are provided by 2021.

Recycling and composting	Recovery and through-put
capacity (000 tonnes)	capacity (000 tonnes)
134	164

Core Output Indicators (6a and 6b)

At 31st December 2006 there were undetermined applications for proposals for a composting facility with a treatment capacity of 35,000 tonnes per annum and a resource recovery park with a capacity of 180,000 tonnes per annum. Either of these would significantly increase the treatment capacity of the County. Applications for proposals for Materials Reclamation Facilities (MRFs) with a further capacity of 385,000 tonnes (of which 135,000 tonnes would be for Municipal Waste) were also undetermined at this date. Although not all of this waste would be treated (in the Environment Agency's sense of the term of being subject to 2 distinct treatments) and some residual waste would still be landfilled, the contribution of any of these would make to diverting waste from landfill would be significant.

Analysis

The Council is still receiving significant numbers of applications for waste management facilities. In contrast to some other Counties in the Region, the range of sizes of facilities is mixed and in some cases the capacity proposed in large. The Council regards this as continued vindication of its choice of policy direction – to rely on criteria based policies rather than the prescription of specific sites. It has continued this approach in its emerging Waste Core Strategy.

6(b) Municipal Waste Arisings

No new facilities specifically for the treatment of Municipal Waste were permitted or commenced during 2005-06. Nonetheless the Council has continued to improve its performance. Details of MSW was managed, the relevant BVPIs and of Local Targets are set out below.

Amount of Municipal Waste Arisings and Management by Management Type and Percentage each Management Type represents of the Waste Managed (Core Output Indicator 6(b))

Achievement:

2005/06 tonnage (MSW) and % as managed.

Management	Tonnage	%
Recycled	63771	21.92
Composted	27752	9.54
Recovered	19548	6.72
Landfilled	179841	61.82
Total	290912	100.0

See also Table 2 BVPI achievement.

Table 5 - BVPI – Explanation to Tables

The Best Value Performance Indicators in the tables which follow, are listed under the criteria set by the ODPM.

The indicators provide a measurement of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the Council as well as the quality of services provided. We have included the English National Average figures, compiled from the results of all the Councils in England, and that of all County Councils. This provides us with a guide to our comparative performance.

The First Column	Details the number of the performance indicator.
The Second Column	Contains a brief description of the performance indicator. Definitions are provided by the ODPM.
The Third Column	Shows our figure for 2004/05 as reported in last year's Best Value Performance Plan.
The Fourth Column	Shows the target results outturns for 2005/06.
The Fifth Column	Gives the year end results for 2005-06
The Sixth Column	Gives the %variation from the previous year.
The Seventh Column	Shows our performance against the previous year (+ = achieved, - = failed)
The Eighth Column	Shows our variation from the target for 2005/06.
The Ninth Column	Shows our performance against the target.
The Tenth Column	Shows the CPA Prediction for 2006.
	l

The indicators appear as follows:

Ref No.	Best Value Performance Indicator	Previous Year Result (2004-05)	Year-end Target (2005-06)	Year-end Result (2005-06)	% Variation Previous Year	Outlook against Previous year	% Variation from Target	Outlook against Target	CPA Prediction 2006
BV 82a	Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings, which have been recycled.	16.44%	22%	21.92%	33%	+	-1%	-	NA
BV 82a (i)	Tonnage recycled.								

Integrated Waste Management Contract

In December 1998 Herefordshire Council and Worcestershire County Council together awarded a twenty five year contract for an integrated waste management service to Mercia Waste Management Limited, which established a sister company Severn Waste Services Limited to deliver the service locally.

The Contractor has to achieve certain targets for waste recycling, composting and recovery. A key component of the Contract was the provision of an integrated waste management facility, which included an energy from waste plant located in the north of Worcestershire. Following the refusal of planning permission for this facility in July 2002 and the introduction of Statutory Performance Standards for recycling and composting in March 2002, the counties and the Contractor have reviewed the future provision and requirements of the Contract, taking into account emerging technologies and latest best practice.

The structure of the revised contract and the preferred type of technology that will

It is proposed that this type of facility would be provided at:

Achievement

The Council is also promoting the use of kitchen food waste dispensers and offer a cash back scheme. For those who have no garden and can't compost, it provides an effective solution for kitchen waste, like vegetable peelings and leftover food waste.

Awareness of the environmental benefits of using 'real' nappies had been raised through the Council's 'Nappaccino Mornings' held at various locations throughout the County on a monthly basis.

The Council has been working with various organisations to promote re-use. Helping the close the loop between items that are unwanted by one person but highly sought after by another is a great way of diverting waste from landfill.

The development of the Social Enterprise in Waste and Recycling Forum during 2005 has proved to be an ideal catalyst in increasing awareness of re-use.

By linking in with the national 'Recycle Now' campaign, standard imagery is helping to relay a consistent approach and is assisting in achieving recycling targets.

Good media relationships have been established by all the local authorities, this has helped in promoting waste awareness and recycling.

Local Target, Partnership Working

Achievement

The local authorities continue to work together to deliver more sustainable and cohesive waste management services across the County. The Joint Members Waste Forum helps to drive the delivery of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. Consultancy support from the WIP/LASU Fund (Waste Implementation Programme/Local Authority Support Unit) enabled the Waste Collection authorities and the County Council to fully assess the improvement in recycling performance and the potential cost savings by moving to the "Vision" method of collection as outlined in the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Analysis

Structure Plan Policy WD1 sets the principles by which waste management facilities will be assessed. The background assumptions on which it is based, together with the Council's BPEO Strategy are no longer in accord with PPS10 and will be superseded when the Council's Waste Core Strategy is approved.

5.8 Objective: Achievement of RSS Policy WD3

Purpose: In summary the aim of the policy is that Development Plans should include policies and proposals that

(a)(i) guide the location of waste and new facilities to appropriate locations having regard to the proximity principle etc.

- (ii) where consistent with BPEO, encourage alternatives to road transport
- (iii) require the submission for in-house/on-site recycling of waste, for major development proposals
- (b) include sites specific proposals
- (c) guide proposals for new landfill

Relevant Output Indicators

If development plans include the relevant policies.

Local Targets

No specific targets are appropriate.

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy WD3

Structure Plan Policies WD2 (Location of Waste Handling and Treatment Facilities), WD3 (Location of such facilities without harm to features of acknowledged importance), W3 (Suitable sites for landfill)

Analysis

The saved Structure Plan policies and the BPEO Strategy address the requirements of RSS policies WD3A (i) and (ii), B and C. No permissions have been granted or allowed at appeal which would not comply with these or the principles which the RSS policy seeks to achieve. In general terms, however, the Council considers that the saved policies and the BPEO strategy are not in accordance with PPS10. The Council's Waste Core Strategy DPD will supersede the Structure Plan policies and clarify the status of the Council's BPEO Strategy, which parts of it are to be retained and how it will be applied.

The Waste Core Strategy could be adopted in 2007. All of the Structure Plan Waste policies will then be superseded. The Council does not however intend to prepare a sites specific Waste DPD in the short term. The Council has serious shortages of staff resources at present and is concerned that the preparation of a site identification document would delay the preparation of the Minerals Core Strategy unacceptably. It also considers there are good practical reasons for not doing so. Firstly the partial review of the Regional Spatial Strategy has commenced. Part of the review is to identify regional and sub-regional needs for different types of waste management facilities across the three main waste streams. The Council considers it would be difficult to make progress on a sites specific DPD in advance of these options and the subsequent alterations to the RSS it will entail. Secondly, the Council does not believe that the absence of a site specific DPD is holding back the provision of adequate and appropriate sustainable waste management facilities. Between the adoption of the County BPEO in July 2003 and 1st December 2006, the Council has received 119 applications for waste related facilities. Of these, 86 (72%) have been approved; 7 (6%) refused, 10(8%) withdrawn and 16(13%) still to be determined.

If those applications relating to sewage are discounted from the 119 then 58 applications were received. Of these 36 (62%) were approved, 7 (12%) refused, 7 (12%) withdrawn and 8 (14%) are still to be determined. These applications have been for a range of facilities across the waste streams including landfill and tipping, aggregate recycling and crushing, waste transfer and bulking facilities, anaerobic digestion, composting and greenwaste processing, and a major waste treatment (autoclaving facility) for MSW at Hartlebury, which has now been approved. It is clear therefore that the absence of sites specific proposals has not unduly delayed the provision of appropriate sustainable waste management facilities in Worcestershire.

The Council has one further reservation, that sites specific allocations for specific waste facilities could frustrate both alternative suitable sites (not known at the time of plan preparation) and innovative technology from being brought forward. The recently approved Estech facility at Hartlebury is a good example of this. The site had been previously discounted as it had a planning permission for alternative use. The application was for an emerging and developing technology previously not considered a viable waste management option within Worcestershire.

It intends therefore to base its determination of applications for planning permission for waste management related activity on the Waste Core Strategy as soon as it is adopted and RSS; unless and until either RSS policy or the Council's monitoring procedures indicate that this is not sufficient. RETENTION OF SAVED DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES BEYOND 28TH

M.4 Restoration and Aftercare

M.6 Recycled Materials

D.16 Reuse and Conversions of Buildings
D.28 New Building for Business Purposes in the Green Belt
D.30 Farm Diversification
D.38 General Extent and Purposes of the Green Belt
D.39 Control of Development in the Green Belt

D.40 Green Belt Boundary Definition

RST.1 Criteria for the Development of Recreation and Sports Facilities

EN.3 Waste to Energy

T.11 Assessment of new Roads

T.12 Road Schemes

Minerals Local Plan:

The Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan still includes some preferred areas for extraction which have not been applied for and the policies by which they and other mineral development should be assessed. The Council intends to include a Minerals Core Strategy in its Local Development Scheme when it is reviewed during 2007. Once adopted the Minerals Core Strategy will supersede the Minerals Local Plan.

For the record the following Minerals Local Plan policies were used by the County Council for the determination of applications for planning permission during the year.

Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan policies used in the determination of applications for planning permission between 31st March 2005 and 1st April 2006

M2 Criteria; Sand and Gravel Extraction, not preferred areas

M8 Highway Implications

M10 Progressive Restoration

M11 Reclamation generally

M12 Restoration to agriculture

M13 Restoration to water uses

M14 Restoration to nature conservation, forestry and recreation

M15 Maintenance of environmental standards

M16 Treatment of Public Rights of Way

M17 Alternative, Secondary and Recycled Aggregates.

6. LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY ISSUES

The Core Strategy will explore the links between the environmental impacts of Mineral and Waste development, particularly on the landscape and biodiversity of the County, through its Sustainability Appraisal process. In connection with this work, the Council is currently beginning a major programme to improve its assessment of the condition of landscape and biodiversity of the County. Work is in hand to monitor changes in the County's environment in a systematic way through the Worcestershire State of the Environment Report. A baseline (at 2004) has been established for 23 areas of concern. *Future annual monitoring reports could assess the implications of this work and it is possible that an SPD might be developed in future.* Other work will include:

Measure Landscape Character Change

The UK BAP targets have undergone review in 2005/06 to facilitate the government's commitment to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010. In line with this, the Worcestershire BAP review commenced in October 2006 and will be completed in 2007. This revised version of the Worcestershire BAP will use BARS (Biodiversity Action Reporting System) to monitor progress against targets in relation to local, regional and national targets.

County Biodiversity Action Plan

The Council is developing a methodology to undertake this work and is currently exploring the development of baselines from which changes in the condition of the landscape will be measured.

Landscape change at a broader, regional level is currently monitoring through Natural England's Countryside Quality Counts (QC) initiative. *Future annual monitoring reports could assess the implications on these changes and the need for future planning policies.*

Biological Records Centre

The Worcestershire Biological Records Centre holds flora and fauna species records that are an essential component for full and complete consideration of biodiversity by local authorities and statutory agencies.

Ongoing work compiling records within the County continues and will inform the above work.

Special Wildlife Site Review

If adequately supported by local authorities and statutory agencies working in Worcestershire, the SWS system will provide higher quality repeatable monitoring data.

Subject to local authority and statutory agency funding, it is expected that the review will be completed by 2009.

This work will be guided by national changes proposed by the Wildlife Trusts and future annual monitoring reports will report progress.

Worcestershire Habitat Inventory

7. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Statement of Community Involvement

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted by the Council on 30th. November 2006. It sets out the Council's proposals for involving the community, stakeholders and statutory bodies in the preparation of the Mineral and Waste Development Framework and the processing of applications for planning permission.

In developing the SCI the Council achieved very high returns from its initial consultation (43% from over 1,000 people and organisations contacted) and significant success in identifying and contacting Hard to Reach Groups. Criteria will be developed during 2007 to monitor how effective the SCI is in fostering community involvement. Results will be incorporated in the AMR for 2007.

8. LIMITATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE MONITORING

Currently the Council is experiencing difficulties with:

- Obtaining up to date information re: Waste Management Treatment capacity, and
- Ascertaining the volume and treatment of Construction and Demolition Waste are described above.

The difficulties it reported in the AMR for 2004-05 regarding the access to and the use of information about the sales and reserves of aggregates have largely been overcome.

Because this is the Council's second Annual Monitoring Report it is not possible to

APPENDIX 1

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

APPENDIX 2

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

The County of Worcestershire covers an area of 173,529 ha. and is part of the West Midlands Region, it is adjacent to the major West Midlands Conurbation and Staffordshire to the north, the Marches Counties of Herefordshire and Shropshire to the west, Gloucestershire and the South West Region to the south and Warwickshire to the east. It includes six District Councils, Bromsgrove, Malvern Hills, Redditch, Worcester City, Wychavon and Wyre Forest. (See Worcestershire County Structure Plan Key Diagram (last page of this report)).

The following is a summary of the issues most germane to Minerals and Waste Planning.

Monitoring the State of our Environment

The Worcestershire Partnership Environment Group (WPEG) has developed an innovative way of helping us to map and recognise changes in state of the local environment in Worcestershire. Called the State of the Environment report it track changes annually and over the longer term bring together information from a range of partners in one place.

What is the Worcestershire Partnership Environment Group (WPEG)?

WPEG is a sub group of the Worcestershire Partnership and is made up of over 30 individuals representing many interests in the environment, including scientists, voluntary sector, businesses, government agencies and local Councils, elected members and farmers.

To see the State of the Environment report visit the Worcestershire Partnership website at <u>www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk</u>.

Physiography

Worcestershire is one of the most diverse Counties in Britain. Not only does it have a very varied geology and landform but it encompasses the southern limit of many northern plant and animal species, and the northern limit of species found in the south, and so is exceptionally rich biologically. Cultural factors also have a significant influence. The County spans the boundary between what Oliver Rackham and other landscape experts describe as the ancient landscapes of the north and west of Britain and the planned landscapes associated with much of Central England. The Malvern Hills AONB is almost wholly, and the Cotswolds AONB is partly within the County. Part of the County has also been designated by the European Geoparks Association as part of the Abberley and Malvern Hills Geopark, one of only three geoparks in the UK. Topographically the contrast of hard rocks to the north and west and softer rocks in

Economy

A link to the County Economic Assessment 2005-06 can be found at <u>www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk/environment</u>

Table 6 - Key Statistics for the Business Competitive Indicators are

	Worcest ershire	West Midlands	Great Britain
POPULATION			
Mid-year Estimate 2005	555,800	5,365,400	58,485,000
Area (hectares)	173,529	1,300,400	24,910,000
Density (persons per hectare)	3.2	4.1	2.3
Population Change 2004 – 2005 (%)	0.7	0.6	0.6
HOUSEHOLDS			
Average Property Price (£), Quarter 2 2006	£190,196	£164,575	£199,165*
EMPLOYMENT			
Total Employment 2004	271,000	2,442,300	27,390,500
Change in Employment 2003-2004 (%)	0.8	0.4	0.6
Economic Activity Rate, 2004 (%)	81.0	77.4	78.4
Economic Activity Rate, 2004 (%) - Males	86.2	82.8	83.2
Economic Activity Rate, 2004 (%) - Females	75.6	71.5	73.2
% Employed in Manufacturing, 2004	19.7	18.2	13.3
% Employed in Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants, 2004	20.7	19.2	19.3
% Employed in Public Admin, Education, Health, 2004	26.5	27.7	27.8
% Employed in the Service Sector, 2004	70.5	71.8	76.6
Average Gross Weekly Earnings - Residents, 2004 (£)	£421.10	£405.30	£435.40

UNEMPLOYMENT 27.8

Information from individual Local Authorities can be obtained from the website: <u>http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/contents.shtml</u>.

Sources: Office of National Statistics (ONS), Labour Force Survey, Annual Population Survey, Land Registry, Research & Intelligence Worcestershire County Council, NOMIS, 2001 Census, Annual Business Inquiry 2003, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

<u>*England & Wales</u> **UK

***England

Self-Employment

The Annual Population Survey provides figures for self-employment. In 2005 it was estimated that 38,200 people were self-employed in Worcestershire, equating to 14.1% of the total working population. This rate is 1.3% above the national average of 12.8%. Locally the proportion of self-employed in Worcestershire has increased by 0.1% compared with the previous year, compared with a rise of 0.1% regionally and 0.2% nationally. (Source: Annual Population Survey, 2005)

Employment and Agriculture

The Annual Business Inquiry and hence para 4.16 below does not accurately represent those employed in agriculture. The June 2004 Agricultural Census for England (DEFRA) shows that local labour in the Agricultural Sector numbers 7,985 in Worcestershire. This represents an increase of 5.6% from 2003. Changes in the local agricultural sector could have visible affects on the character of the County's landscape and less perceptibly on biodiversity and possibly soil sustainability and water quality. *Further Annual Monitoring Reports could explore these issues.*

Unemployment

Although claimant count rates have increased since January 2005, Worcestershire is still well below the rate for the West Midlands and Great Britain. A pattern of increasing claimant count rates since January 2005 has also been evident regionally and nationally.

Table 7 - Total Unemployment

Area	Male		Female		
	Claimants and Rate (%) August 2006	Change since August 2005	Claiman ts and Rate (%) August 2006	Change since August 2005	
Worcestershire	4,630	•			

Long Term Unemployment

Long-term unemployment is defined as claimants spending six months or more on the claimant count register. In August 2006, 31.7 per cent of the claimants in Worcestershire (2,045 claimants) were classified as being long-term unemployed. This represents an increase of 9.3 per cent (590 claimants) since August 2005. Despite the large increase the level of long-term unemployment in Worcestershire in August 2006 remains significantly lower than the figure for the West Midlands region (36.4 per cent) or for Great Britain (41.3 per cent).

Claimants counted in youth unemployment figures are those aged between 16 and 24. In August 2006, 29.8 per cent of those who were unemployed in Worcestershire fell into this category, equating to 1,925 claimants. This is an increase of 1.6 per cent (100 claimants) since August 2005. Youth unemployment in Worcestershire remains slightly below regional and national figures. In August 2006 the West Midlands figure stood at 32.5 per cent while the total for Great Britain was 32.0 per cent.

Employment by Industry

Changes in the nature of the local economy could have implications for the nature and volumes of waste produced and the forms of management necessary. Future AMR's could assess the nature of changes in individual sectors and the possibility of significant effects.

Table 8 - Employment by Industry

Employee Jobs by Industry, 2000-2004

	Worcestershire			West Midlands	England
	2004	%	% Change (00-04)	% Change (00-04)	% Change (00-04)
Agriculture*	7,985	3.3	-4.2	-1.4	-2.0
Energy and water	1,128	0.5	-9.3	-43.2	-27.8
Manufacturing	42,442	17.8	-9.5	-21.4	-18.3
Construction	10,641	4.5	23.8	11.5	6.0
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	58,332	24.4	-1.6	8.0	5.4
Transport and communications	9,194	3.8	-14.5	-1.6	-0.5
Banking, finance & insurance, etc	39,414	16.5	17.2	14.5	4.1
Public admin, education & health	57,524	24.1	6.2	12.5	13.5
Other services	12,442	5.2	43.0	3.1	5.9
Total	239,102	100.0	3.2	2.5	2.8

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, 2000, 2004, DEFRA, 2000, 2004 *Taken from the Agricultural Census as the Nearly a half of the entire workforce in the county is employed in the Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants Sector (24.4 per cent), or within Public Administration, Education and Health (24.1 per cent).

Between 2000 and 2004 there have been some significant changes in the job structure in Worcestershire. Overall there has been a 3.2% increase in the number of jobs (compared to 2.8% nationally) over the four-year period. Distribution, hotels & restaurants and Public Administration continue to be the two largest sectors in terms of total employee jobs.

- Within the construction industry there has been a 23.8% increase in employee jobs from 8,597 to 10,641 (compared to 6% increase nationally).
- There has been a 43.0% increase in employee jobs in 'other services' sector (includes solicitors, accountants, employment agencies, marketing, security).
- The number of jobs in agriculture has decreased by 4.2% compared to a 2.0% decrease nationally.
- The manufacturing sector has experienced a 9.5% decrease between 2000 and 2004 compared to -21% regionally and 18% nationally.

Local Economic Forecast (March 2004)

The Local Economic Forecasting Model from Cambridge Econometrics provides future projections for a number of economic measures at County, regional and national level. Although projections are available up to 2020, analysis is limited to cover the period up until 2015. The main findings are outlined below.

Investment

Total investment in Worcestershire is projected to increase by 2.4% per annum between 2004 and 2010 (compared to 2.3% in the West Midlands and 3.1% in the UK), and by 2.3% per annum between 2010 and 2015 (compared to 2.2% in the West Midlands and 2.6% in the UK).

The figures indicate that only Worcestershire's Financial and Business Services sector will suffer a negative period of investment until 2010 (-0.6%), although during the period 2010 to 2015, investment is forecast to increase (2.7%). The data also shows relatively large projected increases in investment within the sectors of Transport and Communications (5.0%) and Government Services (4.7%) between 2004-2010. Although to a slightly lesser degree this trend is repeated across the West Midlands and the UK.

With the exception of Financial & Business Services, investment growth across all sectors in Worcestershire is expected to be lower in 2010-2015 compared with 2004-2010. Again this pattern is repeated on a regional and national level.

Other Indicators

Housing

Housing development could have implications for aggregate supply, the re-use of brownfield land and generation of alternative aggregates. The distribution of new housing could also have implications for municipal waste collection, the character of the landscape, traffic, pollution, water supply and quality. Effects on the local economy are also possible.

Regulation 48 (6) and (7) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 state that the Annual Monitoring Report must include an assessment of the number of dwellings built. These assessments are made by the six District Councils in the County. Their inclusion here could only be made on the basis of figures provided by these Councils and would inevitably not be as up to date as those shown in District Councils' own Annual Monitoring Reports. GOWM's advice is that these Regulations do not apply where the Local Development Framework does not include any housing element and that no such figures need be included here.

New housing allocations for the County will be imposed when Phase 2 of the RSS Review is approved in 2008. The new figures will have implications for the need for aggregates in the short term and for the provision of waste management facilities in the longer. These issues will be explored in subsequent AMRs and will inform the emerging Minerals Core Strategy and future reviews of the Waste Core Strategy.

Deprivation

Future AMRs could address issues of deprivation and progress, notably in the Rural Action Plan.

APPENDIX 3 DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

The Development Plan currently consists of the following documents:

Worcestershire County Structure Plan Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy

APPENDIX 4 RELEVANT DOCUMENTS MINERAL AND WASTE PLANNING

Regional Planning

West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (formerly RPG 11) (June 2004)

Worcestershire County Council

Minerals and Waste Development Scheme documents (current/latest documents asterisked). All obtainable from: http/worcestershire.gov.uk.

- *Statement of Community Involvement
- *Waste Core Strategy: Submission Document and Proposals Map (January 2007)
- Waste Core Strategy: Preferred Options Report (April 2006)
- *Annex to Sustainability Appraisal Report (April 2006) Waste Core Strategy, Preferred Options Report
- Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire: Moving Towards the Identification of Preferred Options (September 2005)
- *Sustainability Appraisal of the Waste Core Strategy: Issues and Options (September 2005) (and Appendices)
- Scoping Report: Sustainability Appraisal of the Waste Core Strategy (September 2005)
- Responses to Scoping Report Consultation (August 2005)
- Planning Issues and Options for Managing Waste in Worcestershire Evidence Gathering in Preparation of the Core Strategy – Final Report (April 2005)
- *The Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme (April 2006)
- Waste Development Framework Report of the Stakeholder Workshops (December 2004)
- *Planning Best Practical Environmental Option (Cabinet approved) (July 2003)

Saved Plans

• *Worcestershire County Structure Plan 1996-2011 Adopted Plan (June 2001)

Other Worcestershire County Council documents referred to in the text

- *Worcestershire State of the Environment Report (on-going)
- *"Managing Waste for a brighter Future" Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Herefordshire and Worcestershire 2004-2034 (November 2004)
- *Economic Assessment 2005-2006 Worcestershire County Council

APPENDIX 5 – PERMITTED WASTE MANAGEMENT SITES

Table 9: Current List of Active County Matter Permissions for Waste ManagementFacilities –Last updated December 2006

File Reference	Bromsgrove District
BR03/W/Mon	Off Dark Lane, Headley Heath, Wythall
	Application 407544 - Construction of a Sewage Treatment Works
BR04/W/Mon	Weights Farm, Weights Lane, Redditch, Worcs
	Application 404055 – mineral extraction and regarding of land adjacent to
	north-east side of railway line
	Application 407235 – tipping of inert materials and construction of access
	track
	Application 407325 – continuation of tipping of material
	Application 407376 – Extension of tipping area
BR05/W/Mon	Landfill at Quantry Lane, Romsley, Bromsgrove Worcs
	Application 600605 – Landfill comprising improvement of the access,
	erection of fencing, provision of mess facilities and garage, deposit of
	domestic, commercial and non-hazardous industrial waste, covering with soil
	and restoration to agricultural use
BR07/W/Mon	Sandy Lane Landfill Site, A491, (Stanley Evans Quarry) Wildmoor
	Application Reference 6522R – Landfilling of waste materials
7 permissions	Application 407102 – infilling of exisiting excavations with imported inert
	waste
	Application 407292 – landfilling by cleanaway; appeal
	Application 107110 – ROMPP relating to landfilling and restoration

working of sand)
Application 407558

	Tenbury Wells Sewage Treatment Works, Rhyse Lane, Tenbury Wells
	Application 407563 – Submerged aerated filter plant, phosphate removal
	plant and ancillary development
	Application 407603 – Installation of 8 kiosks, field access and retrospective
	associated works in connection with STW
MH20/W/Mon	Upper Howsell Road, Great Malvern
	Application 407581 - Erection of control cabinet for flood relief scheme
MH21/W/Mon	Poolhay, Nr. Corse Lawn, Malvern Hills
	Application 407605 – new STW on land off Link End road, SW of Poolhay
MH/23/W/Mon	Moorlands Road, Link Common, Malvern
	Application 407617 - Installation of kiosk/cabinet to monitor performance of
	sewer and provide environmental data
MH/24/W/Mon	STW, Lower Ferry Lane, Callow End, Powick, Worcester
	Application 407615 – Erection of electrical control kiosk as part of sewer
	improvements at Lower Ferry Lane, Callow End, Powick
MH25/W/Mon	Grove Crescent, Ryall Grove, Upton-upon-severn
	Application 407629 – Proposed electrical control kiosk on the verge at the
	Horse and Groom Inn, Ryall Grove
	Old Road, Clifton Upon Teme
	Application 407655 – Proposed upgrading of pumping Station
	Powick STW
	Application 407656 – Construction of 1 no GRP Control Kiosk at Powick
	Sewage Treatment Works.
	Blackmore Park Industrial Estate, Near Malvern
	Application 407662 – Proposed Control Kiosk at Blackmore Sewage
	Pumping Station.
	Malvern Sewage Treatment Works, Mill Lane, Malvern
	Application 407666 – Construction of 4 GRP kiosks.
	Kempsey Sewage Treatment Works, off Post Office Lane, Kempsey
	Application 407668 – Improvement works to sewage Pumping Station
	including the erection of three kiosks.
	Church Road, Tenbury Wells
	Application 407673 – Refurbishment of sewage pumping station
	Halfkey Farm, Halfkey, Malvern, Application 407663 - Re use and conversion
	of existing haystore and shelter to domestic/small animal incinerator facility.
Total live sites	

File reference	Redditch District
RE01/W/Mon	Alexandra Hospital, Woodrow Drive, Redditch Application 407293 – New medical waste incinerator to be housed in
2 permissions	extension to existing plant building Application 407618 – variation for non compliance with condition 6 of permission 407293
RE02/W/Mon	Crossgate Road, Park Farm Industrial Estate, Redditch Application 407471 – Extension and refurbishment of Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste site

RE04/W/Mon

File reference	Worcester City District
WC01/W/Mon	Blackpole Recycling, Unit 100, Blackpole Trading Estate
	Application 407530 – Change of use to Recycling Centre
WC03/W/Mon	The Recycling Centre, Stanier Road, Wardon, Worcester
	Application 407447 – use of existing/approved buildings for shredding/other
	process of a similar nature resulting in volume reduction of any article to
	which the process is applied
WC04/W/Mon	Hallow Road Reclamation Centre, Horsford Road, St

	to allow a further two years for infilling to be completed
WY11/W/Mon	Household Waste Site, Hanbury Road, Droitwich
	Application 407469 – Refurbishment and extension of household waste site
2 permissions	Application 407490 – New access for household waste site
WY12/W/Mon	Land north of Long Lane, Throckmorton
	Application 407512 – New STW & pumping station
WY16/W/Mon	Skip Hire Depot, Lydstep, Cleeve Road, Evesham
	Road, Middle Littleton, Nr Application 407544 – Waste transfer station
WV17/W/Mon	Waresley Landfill Site, Hartlebury
	Application 407551 – Construction and operation of landfill gas utilisation
	facility
	Application 407177 – Clay extraction and restoration by tipping of refuse
WY18/W/Mon	George Baylis Road, Berry Hill, Industrial Estate, Droitwich
2 permissions	Application 407333 – Waste reclamation centre
•	Application 407362 – Use of a mini-breaker crushing plant
WY20/W/Mon	Hill and Moor Landfill site, Throckmorton, near Pershore

407544 for a waste transfer station on land forming part of skip hire depot in
order to allow the use of an on site screener at Pete Bott Skips.
Hawbridge Sewage Treatment Works, Near Stoulton
Application 407643 – Construction of new sewage treatment works adjacent
to and incorporating the existing Hawbridge STW.
Droitwich STW Porters Mill, Ladywood, Droitwich
Application 407644 - Proposed modification to existing sewage treatment
works.
Drakes Lea, Bengeworth, Evesham
Application 407651 – Asset Renewal, replacement of an existing control
Kiosk.
Park Lane, Bradley
Application 407653 – Installation of 2 no control kiosks at priest bridge STW
Harvey Road, Bengeworth, Evesham
Application 407654 – Replacement of existing control kiosk
Rectory Lane Sewage Treatment works, Rock
Application 407667 – Proposed extension and upgrading of existing STW.
batricel control panels.

Wessex House, Trench Lane, Oddingley. **Application 407672** – Construction of sewage pumping station and site perimeter fencing.

File reference	Wyre Forest District
WF01/W/Mon	Wyre Forest Recycling Services, Land at former tile yard, Sandy
3 permissions	Lane Industrial Estate, Stourport Application 407422 – Non-hazardous waste recycling centre
5 permissions	Application 407550 – Operation of a mobile crushing machine
	Application 407600 – To vary Condition 3 of planning permission
	407550 to extend time period to October 2006 and to vary
	condition 6 of same permission to allow movement of the crushing
	operation within the site
WF02/W/Mon	Former Lorry Park, Hoobrook Industrial Estate, Kidderminster
	Application 407559 - Bulk Storage Facility for Recyclables
WF04/W/Mon	Lawrences Skip Hire, Hoobrook Trading Estate, Kidderminster
	Application 407380 – Non-hazardous waste transfer site
2 permissions	Application 407552 – To continue use of site as waste transfer
	site but without complying with conditions 3 and 4 of the above
	planning permission (407380)
WF05/W/Mon	Summerway Landfill Site, Hillary Road, Stourport on Severn
2 permissions	Hilary Road, Stourport
	Application SU298/69 – tipping of soils and rubble Application 407606 – recycling of soils by screening for off-site
	distribution
WF07/W/Mon	Land west of Arthur Drive, Hoobrook Farm I.E., Kidderminster
	Application 407452 – waste transfer and recycling facility
WF08/W/Mon	Bone Mill, Minster Road, Stourport
	Application 407470 – Household waste site
WF11/W/Mon	Hoobrook Transfer Station, Kidderminster
	Application 601077 – Household waste site
WF12/W/Mon	Change of use of part of processing yard to waste transfer
_	station, Lickhill Quarry
2 permissions	Application 407518 – change of use of part of processing yard to
	waste transfer station
	Application 407582 – to continue the operation of waste transfer
	station and recycling facility in part of the yard

	Sites with EA licence but not on County Council record
	Stephen Betts & Sons, Park Street Works, Kidderminster
	Stephen Alexander Betts, Special Waste Transfer Station
	Kidderminster Car Dismantlers MRS, Kenneth Walton, MRS
	(Vehicle Dismantlers)
	Wyre Forest Recycling Ltd Transfer Station, Wyre Forest
	Recycling Services Ltd, HCI – WTS
	Green Street Depot, Wyre Forest District Council, Special
	Waste Transfer Station
	Carmas 96 – MRS – Plot A, Road 2 Hoobrook Industrial
	Estate, Kidderminster. John David Boraston, MRS (Vehicle
	Dismantler)
Total live sites	16 Permissions 18

APPENDIX 6

COMMUNITY STRATEGY LINKS