

Executive Report

Delegated Decisions - 19 March 2024

PUBLICATION OF MINERALS AND WASTE SITE MONITORING PLAN

Name of Cabinet Member	Councillor Pete Marland (Leader of the Council)
Report sponsor	Paul Thomas Director of Planning and Placemaking
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Exempt / confidential / not for publication	No
Council Plan reference	Not in Council Plan
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

Proactive monitoring of planning permissions is an important way in which we can ensure the environmental effects of minerals and waste development are effectively minimised. The Minerals and Waste Site Monitoring Plan (MWSMP) sets out how we will monitor the implementation of minerals and waste planning permissions within the administrative area of Milton Keynes.

1. Proposed Decisions

- 1.1 That the Minerals and Waste Site Monitoring Plan (MWSMP) attached as an **Annex**, be approved.
- 1.2 That authority be delegated to the Director of Planning and Placemaking, in consultation with the Leader of the Council) to make consequential and other minor grammatical, formatting, and photographic changes to the final documents as required.

2. Reasons for the Decision

- 2.1 To ensure that residents, councillors, officers, and local waste and minerals operators are aware of how we will monitor waste and minerals sites. This includes providing transparency on our approach to charging for monitoring visits, where applicable.

3. Background to the Decision

- 3.1 In developing our minerals and waste planning function, we have started carrying out regular site monitoring visits to the Bletchley Landfill Site. This includes working with the site operator to ensure compliance with the relevant planning conditions controlling development at the site. It is intended to expand this remit to cover other waste and minerals sites within Milton Keynes.
- 3.2 In conjunction with matters controlled through the Environmental Permitting system, proactive monitoring of planning permissions is an important way to ensure the environmental effects of minerals and waste development are effectively minimised. Such effects can include those associated with dust, highways cleanliness, biodiversity, landscaping, and vermin.
- 3.3 The MWSMP sets out how we will monitor the implementation of minerals and waste planning permissions. This includes information about our monitoring and enforcement teams, the scope of the proposed monitoring programme, likely frequency of visits, and how we will carry these out. It also includes an explanation of site monitoring fees which we will charge, where applicable, and an explanation of how we will maintain site monitoring data to ensure transparency in this work.

4. Implications of the Decision

Financial	Y	Human rights, equalities, diversity	
Legal	Y	Policies or Council Plan	Y
Communication	Y	Procurement	
Energy Efficiency		Subsidy	
Workforce		Other	

(a) Financial Implications

The amount and frequency we can charge for minerals and waste site monitoring visits is set out in legislation. The MWSMP provides additional clarity to site operators on the instances we will charge for this service, and how we interpret legislation in this respect.

(b) Legal Implications

The MWSMP sets out how we may utilise our statutory powers of entry to land to carry out our duties in line with the Waste Regulations. We will also only charge for as many visits as permitted by [The Fees Regulations](#). The MWSMP sets out how we will ensure conditions on planning permissions in line with Section 72 and Schedule 5 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) are complied with.

(c) Communication Implications

The MWSMP will provide clear communication to ward and town/parish councillors, residents, other Council services and site operators about how minerals and waste site monitoring will be carried out.

(d) Policy Implications

Implementation of the measures in the Plan will help ensure planning permissions are being complied with, identify potential breaches of planning control, and build up a detailed picture of waste and minerals activities in the area. This will enable us to plan more effectively for the management of waste and supply of minerals in Milton Keynes. It also ensures that the restoration and aftercare of landfill and mineral extraction sites is carried out in line with approved plans and Policy 16 of the Minerals Local Plan.

4. Alternatives Considered

To Do Nothing

- 4.1 This is not considered a suitable option. It would not provide certainty to residents, councillors, minerals and waste site operators, and officers about how the Council will monitor minerals and waste development sites in Milton Keynes.

5. Timetable for Implementation

- 5.1 A copy of the MWSMP will be published on our website following the 10-day call-in period and after any edits have been made to the formatting of the document for editorial and presentational purposes.

List of Annexes

Annex Minerals and Waste Site Monitoring Plan

List of Background Papers

None