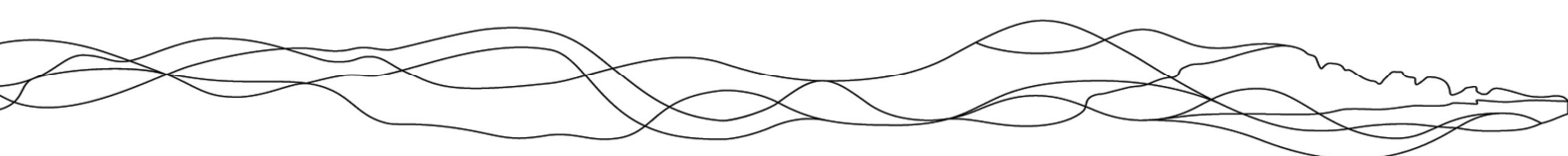


Understanding minerals and waste planning



A guide for District, Town and Parish Councils



Our responsibilities

The South Downs National Park Authority is responsible for minerals and waste planning in the South Downs National Park (SDNP). The Authority is therefore the 'minerals planning authority' and the 'waste planning authority'. Before the South Downs National Park Authority was formed, this role was undertaken by the counties. This means we are responsible for:

- Producing minerals and waste plans which form part of the development plan;
- Determining all minerals and waste applications; and
- Monitoring and enforcement relating to ongoing minerals and waste developments

How we can help

We deal directly with all minerals and waste planning applications, monitoring and enforcement for sites within the South Downs National Park.

If you have any queries or complaints about existing minerals and waste operations within the South Downs National Park then please contact us.

We can also provide information about the adopted and emerging minerals and waste plans that we are working on with our partner county councils, specifically about how these relate to Neighbourhood Plans.

Proactive monitoring of sites

We regularly visit minerals and waste sites to monitor them throughout the year and for some sites we charge operators to do this. This regular monitoring helps to:

- Identify and avoid potential problems before they arise;
- Minimise the need for enforcement or other action;
- Encourage good practice rather than punish bad practice; and
- Provide a means of regular liaison with operators.

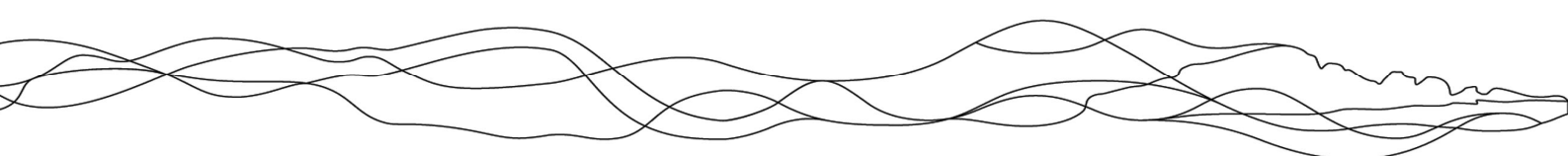
Our [Monitoring and Compliance Guide](#) sets out more information on how we monitor sites and follow up any enforcement issues. However, **local information** can always help us so if you have any concerns about an existing minerals or waste site in your local area, then please let us know. For example, if the level or type of activity on a site significantly changes.

Considering minerals and waste when preparing Neighbourhood Development Plans

Minerals are a non-renewable resource and safeguarding is put in place by the mineral planning authority (the SDNPA) to ensure that non-minerals development does not needlessly prevent the future extraction of important mineral resources.

Waste management facilities have an important role to play in ensuring that waste is managed in the most sustainable way and diverted away from landfill. Working with waste planning authorities (the SDNPA) is important to protect sites needed for waste management (existing or allocated).

The [national planning practice guidance](#) (para 010) contains useful advice on how to promote the sound management of waste from **any** proposed development, for example by the provision of facilities for the storage and collection of waste.



Although neighbourhood plans cannot include policies that cover minerals and waste development, it may be the case that your neighbourhood contains an existing or planned minerals or waste site or safeguarded mineral deposits. In these cases the SDNPA may need to make sure that any proposed new development takes place in a way that does not negatively affect mineral resources or minerals or waste operations.

The main tool used to help safeguard minerals and waste sites are 'Minerals Safeguarding Areas', contained within the minerals and waste plans that cover the SDNP area. If your neighbourhood plan is allocating development in these areas or if any proposed neighbourhood plan policies may impact on minerals and waste provision then the SDNPA must be consulted and will provide guidance.

If you are planning to allocate sites in or near to any of the following then check with us whether it is safeguarded:

- any type of quarry (e.g. clay, sand and gravel, chalk, building stone);
- wharves and railheads;
- oil and gas sites;
- aggregate or soil recycling sites;
- concrete batching sites – sometimes located at Council Depots;
- End of Life Vehicle sites ('scrap yards');
- Material Recovery Facilities (recovering recyclable material);
- Energy Recovery Facilities ('energy from waste plants')
- Household Waste Recycling Sites;
- metal recycling sites;
- composting or Anaerobic Digestion sites;
- Waste Transfer Stations;
- landfill sites;
- other specialist waste management uses; and
- Waste Water Treatment Works ('sewage works')

Minerals and waste plans may also contain sites that are allocated for minerals or waste development but have not yet been developed for that purpose. These sites may also be safeguarded. The links below will tell you what is safeguarded in your area, but if you are not sure then please contact the SDNPA.

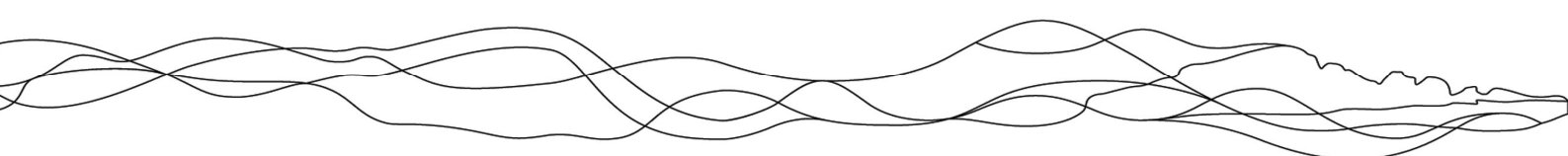
Hampshire

The [Hampshire Mineral and Waste Plan](#) (HMWP) includes a Policies Map which shows the areas of safeguarded mineral resources and infrastructure. The most recent [HMWP Monitoring Report](#) contains an up-to-date and complete list of safeguarded minerals and waste sites and can be used to check if a particular site is safeguarded.

West Sussex

The Minerals Local Plan 2003 doesn't contain a map showing the areas of safeguarded mineral resources but it does show proposed sand and gravel sites. The Plan safeguards wharves and railheads (policies 37, 38, 40 and 41) and mineral resources (policy 2).

The Draft West Sussex Joint Minerals Local Plan (2016) includes policies on safeguarding and there is a 'Draft Minerals Safeguarding Guidance' document which has been published alongside the Plan.



Neighbourhood Plans should consider whether their proposals conflict with any potential site allocations in the emerging plan and check the Minerals Safeguarding maps in the draft Plan.

The West Sussex Waste Local Plan 2013 (policy W2) safeguards waste management sites and infrastructure. Proposed waste sites are outlined in Appendix B of the Plan and existing waste sites are listed in the latest [Monitoring Report](#).

East Sussex and Brighton & Hove

The [Waste and Minerals Plan for East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove 2013](#) sets out how the emerging Sites Plan will safeguard sites through the identification of Mineral Safeguarding Areas.

The Waste and Minerals Sites Plan has now been submitted and will undergo examination. Appendix B of the Plan contains a list of safeguarded waste sites. Policy SP7 contains criteria for when the SDNPA should be consulted to advise on whether non-waste development would affect existing and proposed waste management facilities. Policy SP8 covers mineral resources and the only site within the SDNP which is safeguarded is Stanton's Farm quarry, Novington. SP11 provides information about when the SDNPA should be consulted by neighbourhood planning groups.

Contacts

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For more information please see the website: www.southdowns.gov.uk

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