Meeting: Joint Committee on Mineral and Waste Planning

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024

From: Stephen Pointer Team Manager Planning Policy, Nottinghamshire County Council

### Joint Waste Local Plan - Examination

### 1 Summary

1.1 The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Joint Waste Local Plan has been subject to examination since April 2024. A Public Hearing was held in October and a Schedule of Modifications was developed following dialogue with the Inspector to improve the soundness of the Plan which are being currently finalised will be published in due course. Following consideration of any further comments on the Proposed Modifications, , the Inspector will prepare a report to both Councils and it is hoped the Plan can be adopted by both Councils thereafter.

# 2 Background

- 2.1 The County and City Councils are preparing a single joint Waste Local Plan to replace the Waste Core Strategy adopted by both Councils in December 2013. Both City and County Councils are waste planning authorities, who are responsible for approving relevant waste management planning applications and ensuring there is an up-to-date Local Plan to determine planning applications against. The purpose of the new Plan is to assess the likely changes in waste arisings in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham over the plan period to 2038 and ensure that there are locations and planning policies to accommodate future recycling and waste management provision.
- 2.2 An initial consultation on the new Local Plan, including a 'Call for Sites' was completed in May 2020. A Draft Waste Local Plan was approved by Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City Council in January 2022. The Draft Waste Local Plan was consulted on between the 7<sup>th</sup> February and 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022.
- 2.3 The Pre-Submission Draft Plan was then finalised and published on 30 August 2023 with a six-week period to invite representations on the Plan's Soundness (i.e., is the Plan justified, effective, compliant with national planning policy, and meets the requirements of the relevant regulations). A copy of the Pre-Submission Waste Local Plan is appended for information of the new Committee.

- 2.4 Following officer consideration and the compiling of additional submission documents, the Waste Plan was approved for submission to the Secretary of State by the County Council on 7 December 2023 and the City Council on 4 March 2024. It was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on Tuesday 5 March. Planning Inspector, Stephen Normington was appointed to examine the Plan.
- 2.4 During the summer 2024, the Councils responded to questions set by the Inspector and put forward some specific modifications where it was considered that the Plan could be altered to resolve concerns. These were generally minor in nature and did not amend the substantive thrust of approved policies.
- 2.5 Public hearing sessions were held on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October. At the hearings, officers of both Councils agreed to make some further modifications and these are being prepared and assessed prior to sending to the Inspector and issuing them for further comment. Following this process which enables the Inspector to take on board any final comments, he will prepare a report to both Councils.
- 2.6 Subject to any modifications being recommended in the Inspectors Report and accepted, the Plan as modified can be adopted by both Councils. Given the process which needs to take place, we may not receive the Inspectors Report until Spring 2025. However we were given some assurance from the Inspector during the Hearings that he does not find any fundamental problem with the Plan and we are therefore hopeful of a positive report and the ability to adopt the Waste Local Plan by both Councils at some point before the middle of 2025.

## 3 Recommendation(s)

- 3.1 That this report be noted.
- 4 Background papers referred to in compiling this report
- 4.1 Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan
- 4.2 General information available at New Waste Local Plan | Nottinghamshire County Council

### **Contact Officer**

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