

EQIA Submission – ID Number

Section A

EQIA Title

Kent Mineral Sites Plan

Responsible Officer

Bryan Geake - GT GC

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)

Sharon Thompson - GT GC

Type of Activity

Service Change

No

Service Redesign

No

Project/Programme

No

Commissioning/Procurement

No

Strategy/Policy

Strategy/Policy

Details of other Service Activity

No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate

Growth Environment and Transport

Responsible Service

Growth and Communities

Responsible Head of Service

Sharon Thompson - GT GC

Responsible Director

Stephanie Holt-Castle - GT GC

Aims and Objectives

The County Council is required by planning legislation to produce a development plan (commonly known as a Local Plan) for the sustainable delivery of mineral resources and the management of waste. The Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2024-39 (KMWLP) was adopted in March 2025, as the full review of the Early Partial Review of the KMWLP 2013-30. This 2025 plan sets out the vision and strategy to ensure the sustainable supply of minerals and the management of waste. Both of which play an important role in sustainable communities and providing the infrastructure that society requires. Of particular consequence of the full review of the KMWLP was the finding that insufficient reserves of hard (crushed) rock aggregate are available to ensure a steady and adequate supply of this specific aggregate type to 2029.

The County Council, as plan making authority is required by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to assess whether plans are in need of updating at least once every 5 years, the Council having reviewed the KMWLP has also a responsibility to review the adopted Mineral Sites Plan 2020. This is a cojoined process of the assessment of a potential allocation for a hard (crushed) rock site in the reviewed Mineral Sites Plan to meet identified requirements to 2039. To address this matter the County Council proposes to allocate such a site with sufficient potential reserves to meet the identified hard (crushed) rock aggregate needs in the reviewed Mineral Sites Plan.

This will address national planning policy requirements, as set out in the NPPF for aggregate supply while being fully compliant with the NPPF's provisions relating to biodiversity conservation, biodiversity net gain targets (where appropriate), carbon neutrality targets and the advancement of the principle of the circular economy and overall sustainable economic growth by having a positive, proactive and flexible approach to development.

In doing so, it must be certain that the outcome of such a plan does not have inherent adverse impacts on persons with a protected characteristic. As part of the formal plan formulation process the promoted site that is now considered suitable for allocation in a plan has been the subject of a public consultation in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Section B – Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes

It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?

Yes

Is there national evidence/data that you can use?

Yes

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

Yes

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

The community had the opportunity to comment on initial changes to the Plan via a public consultation under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 conducted in June-July 2023.

The Council used a variety of communication methods as set out in the County Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement. All relevant groups within the county were engaged without bias to any one definable group within the community as a whole. Accessible documents were available and material was available in hard copy.

In addition to local communities, all statutory consultees have been consulted; they include, where relevant:

- Parish Councils
- Kent Borough and District Councils
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Historic England
- Highways England
- Health and Safety Executive,
- Health Protection Agency (Public Health England)
- Campaign to Protect Rural England
- Civil Aviation Authority ((Head of Aerodromes Standards Department),
- Kent Wildlife Trust
- Gardens Trust
- Ministry of Defence
- Network Rail
- The respective water authority (e.g., South East Water)

- UK Power Networks
- Sports England
- Ramblers Association
- Mineral operators and their agents

No response to the public consultation identified an adverse impact upon those within the community with a protected characteristic.

Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?

Yes

Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?

Yes

Section C – Impact

Who may be impacted by the activity?

Service Users/clients

No

Staff

No

Residents/Communities/Citizens

Residents/communities/citizens

Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?

Yes

Details of Positive Impacts

It is considered that the positive impacts and the benefits of mineral development are felt on a Kent wide geographical basis, and the positive impacts are spatial to Kent, and therefore the impacts will be unlikely to be seen in relation to any identified protected group to a lesser or greater extent than the general population.

In considering the allocation of a further hard (crushed) rock site it will ensure that the required level of supply of this specific aggregate over the remaining Plan period will be maintained. This will help to ensure that the community is not subjected to impacts that would otherwise occur if greater aggregate importation were to occur, these being increased carbon loading on the wider environment and increased costs of the supply of construction materials. Moreover, in ensuring the steady and adequate local supply of aggregate minerals will facilitate the maintenance of the infrastructure and the efficient use of Kent’s resources for the required new level of development to the benefit of all defined groups of the general population of Kent.

The Mineral Sites Plan is required to accord with the national planning policy requirement over the Plan’s period to maintain the landbank of this specific aggregate type, thus limiting the Plan’s effect on adverse anthropocentric climate change through not incurring greater carbon emissions associated with greater importation to meet construction needs, this will be to the benefit of all defined groups of the general population of Kent.

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19.Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?
No. Note: If Question 19a is "No", Questions 19b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of negative impacts for Age
Not Completed
Mitigating Actions for Age
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age
Not Completed
20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability
Are there negative impacts for Disability?
No. Note: If Question 20a is "No", Questions 20b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of Negative Impacts for Disability
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Disability
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Disability
Not Completed
21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex
Are there negative impacts for Sex
No. Note: If Question 21a is "No", Questions 21b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of negative impacts for Sex
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sex
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Sex
Not Completed
22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
No. Note: If Question 22a is "No", Questions 22b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
Are there negative impacts for Race
No. Note: If Question 23a is "No", Questions 23b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Race
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief

Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief
No. Note: If Question 24a is "No", Questions 24b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief
Not Completed
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
No. Note: If Question 25a is "No", Questions 25b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No. Note: If Question 26a is "No", Questions 26b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
No. Note: If Question 27a is "No", Questions 27b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No. Note: If Question 28a is "No", Questions 28b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed

