Milton Keynes City Council



Minerals and Waste Local Plan Scoping Consultation Questions

October 2026



Milton Keynes.
Better by design

Table of Contents

Table of Contents 1
List of Questions 2
Non-technical Consultation 3
MWLP Scoping Consultation Draft Vision and Objectives 5
Communications Plan 7
Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Consultation 8

Please note that this list of questions is intended to facilitate easier discussion and preparation of answers to the consultation questions before comments are uploaded to the Commonplace consultation website.

List of Questions

Non-technical Consultation

1. What do you consider to be the most important characteristics of Milton Keynes, and what role do you think minerals and waste development should play in helping to maintain and enhance those qualities?

2. What do you think of the draft MWLP vision? (Unhappy, dissatisfied, neutral, satisfied, happy)

3. Is there anything else you would like to be included in the vision?

4. What do you think about the draft objectives for the MWLP? (Unhappy, dissatisfied, neutral, satisfied, happy)

5. Are there any other issues you think the objectives should address?

6. Do you have any other comments about the vision and objectives?

7. What should be the highest priorities when planning for future minerals development?

    a. Protecting the environment, wildlife and habitats
    b. Reducing impacts on local communities (e.g. noise, dust and traffic)
    c. Ensuring enough minerals are available to support homes and infrastructure
    d. Restoring sites to provide environmental or community benefits
    e. Minimising carbon emissions and supporting climate change objectives
    f. Safeguarding mineral resources for future generations
    g. Reducing lorry movements and transport impacts
    h. Supporting economic growth and local jobs.

8. What should be the highest priorities when planning for future waste management in Milton Keynes?

    a. Reducing the amount of waste produced in the construction sector
    b. Increasing reuse and repair of materials and products

c. Increasing recycling and composting rates
d. Supporting a circular economy and reducing resource use
e. Ensuring there is enough waste management capacity in the area
f. Reducing traffic, noise, odour and other impacts from waste facilities
g. Protecting local communities and public health
h. Protecting the environment, wildlife and natural resources
i. Tackling climate change and reducing carbon emissions
j. Managing waste close to where it is produced.

9. How important are the following factors in making our consultations effective? (Ranked from Not Important, Somewhat Important, Quite Important, to Very Important).

    a. Easy-to-understand language
    b. In-person events
    c. Key Terms documents
    d. Interactive Maps
    e. Visually engaging documents
    f. Digital surveys
    g. Clarity on how responses influence decisions
    h. Short and concise materials

10. What could we do to make it easier for people and organisations to get involved in preparing the Minerals and Waste Local Plan?

11. Are there any groups or communities that you think could be adversely affected by the Plan?

12. What do you think are the most significant environmental impacts, both positive and negative, that could result from the MWLP?

    a. Climate change and carbon emissions
    b. Air quality
    c. Use of natural resources and materials
    d. Water quality, rivers, streams and groundwater
    e. Flood risk and water availability
    f. Wildlife, habitats and biodiversity
    g. Opportunities for environmental improvements through restoration and enhancement
    h. Trees, woodland and green spaces
    i. Landscapes and the character of the countryside
    j. Soil quality and agricultural land
    k. Historic buildings, archaeological sites and local heritage

13. What do you think are the most significant social, health or community impacts, both positive and negative, that could result from the MWLP?

    a. People's health and wellbeing
    b. Noise, dust, odour and other disturbance
    c. Traffic congestion and road safety
    d. Access to nature, parks and open spaces
    e. Local jobs and employment opportunities
    f. Support for local businesses and the economy
    g. Access to minerals and waste infrastructure needed to support growth
    h. Effects on local communities that are already disadvantaged or vulnerable
    i. Recreation and leisure opportunities

14. Do you have any other comments on the SEA?

15. Would you like to raise any other issues or many any other comments about future minerals and waste development in Milton Keynes?

MWLP Scoping Consultation Draft Vision and Objectives

Overall Scope, Vision and Objectives

1. What do you consider to be the most important characteristics of Milton Keynes, and what role do you think minerals and waste development should play in helping to maintain and enhance those qualities?

2. What do you think about the draft MWLP vision and objectives? Are there any matters you would like to see added/removed and how would you justify the change?

3. What do you consider to be the main issues and/or objectives we should address through the Site Selection Methodology for minerals and waste sites?

4. Are there any emerging trends, opportunities, or challenges that may affect future minerals supply or waste management needs?

5. How do you think the MWLP can support mitigation and adaptation to climate change?

6. How would you rank the importance of the following ways the Local Plan can support mitigation and adaptation to climate change? (Very Important, Important, Neutral, Less Important, Not Important)

a. Increase recycling
b. Cut carbon emissions
c. Support renewables
d. Reduce lorry trips
e. Promote rail freight
f. Protect green spaces
g. Plant more trees
h. Protect wildlife habitats
i. Improve flood resilience
j. Water efficiency
k. Requiring sustainable design

7. Are there opportunities for minerals and waste development to contribute to biodiversity net gain, habitat creation, or renewable energy generation?

8. Are there opportunities to increase the use of rail, water, or other sustainable transport methods for minerals and waste movements?

9. Are there any cross-boundary minerals or waste issues that should be considered when preparing the Plan?

10. Are there any groups or communities that may be disproportionately affected by the effects of minerals or waste development?

11. What public health matters should be considered when preparing the Plan?

Minerals

12. What do you think are the biggest challenges facing minerals development in Milton Keynes that the MWLP should address?

13. What policies or strategies should the Minerals and Waste Local Plan include to address these issues and support sustainable minerals development?

14. With Milton Keynes' existing geology in mind, which minerals resources should be safeguarded from non-mineral development? (Sand and Gravel, Chalk, Limestone, Brick Clay) (Choose one or more options)

15. Are there any areas within MK that you think should/should not be safeguarded for minerals development?

16. Are there any mineral infrastructure facilities, such as rail depots or processing plants, that you think should/should not be safeguarded?

Waste

17. What do you think are the biggest challenges facing waste management in Milton Keynes that the MWLP should address?

18. What policies or approaches should the Minerals and Waste Local Plan include to address these issues and support sustainable waste management?

19. What additional waste management facility capacity may be required during the plan period?

20. Are there opportunities to increase waste prevent, reuse, recycling, or recovery within the area?

21. Are there any existing waste facilities which should be safeguarded from the potential effects of non-minerals development?

General

22. Do you have any other comments on the scope, vision and objectives of the new MWLP?

23. What do you think could be an appropriate end date for the plan period?

Communications Plan

24. Does the Communications Plan set out a strong enough approach to engaging the public, especially under-represented groups, in the MWLP? (Rank from 1 “Not strong enough”, to 5 “Very strong”)

25. If not strong enough, what could we do to improve this?

26. Are the proposed engagement methods within the Communications Plan appropriate? (Rank from 1 “Not appropriate”, to 5 “Very appropriate”.

27. If not appropriate, what could we do to improve this?

28. How important are the following factors in making consultation on the Minerals and Waste Local Plan effective?

    a. Information written in easy-to-understand language
    b. Providing a list of Key Terms and Abbreviations
    c. Short and concise consultation materials
    d. In-person events or drop-in sessions
    e. Interactive maps

f. Clear feedback on how consultation responses influence decisions
g. Visually engaging and attractive documents
h. Digital surveys

29. How could we improve the Communications Plan to make our engagement as accessible as possible?

30. How can we best work with neighbouring authorities and other regional stakeholders to address strategic matters?

31. Do you have any other comments on the Communications Plan?

Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Consultation

32. Are the SEA objectives and potential effects of the MWLP sufficient? (Yes/No)

33. Should any additional objectives or potential influences be added / or removed?

34. Are there locally specific minerals and waste development matters in relation to sustainable development that are not addressed through the SEA?

35. Are there locally specific minerals and waste development matters in relation to climate change that are not addressed through the SEA?

36. Are there any other potential impacts of the MWLP that should be considered within the SEA?

37. Have all the plans, policies and programmes that are relevant to the production of the WMLP been reviewed? Or are there any others that should be considered in the Policy, Plans and Programmes review?

38. Is there any additional relevant baseline data that you have, or know of, that is relevant to the MWLP?

39. Are there any inaccuracies in the data presented that should be rectified?

40. Do you have any other comments on the SEA?