

HAMPSHIRE

Minerals and Waste Local Plan

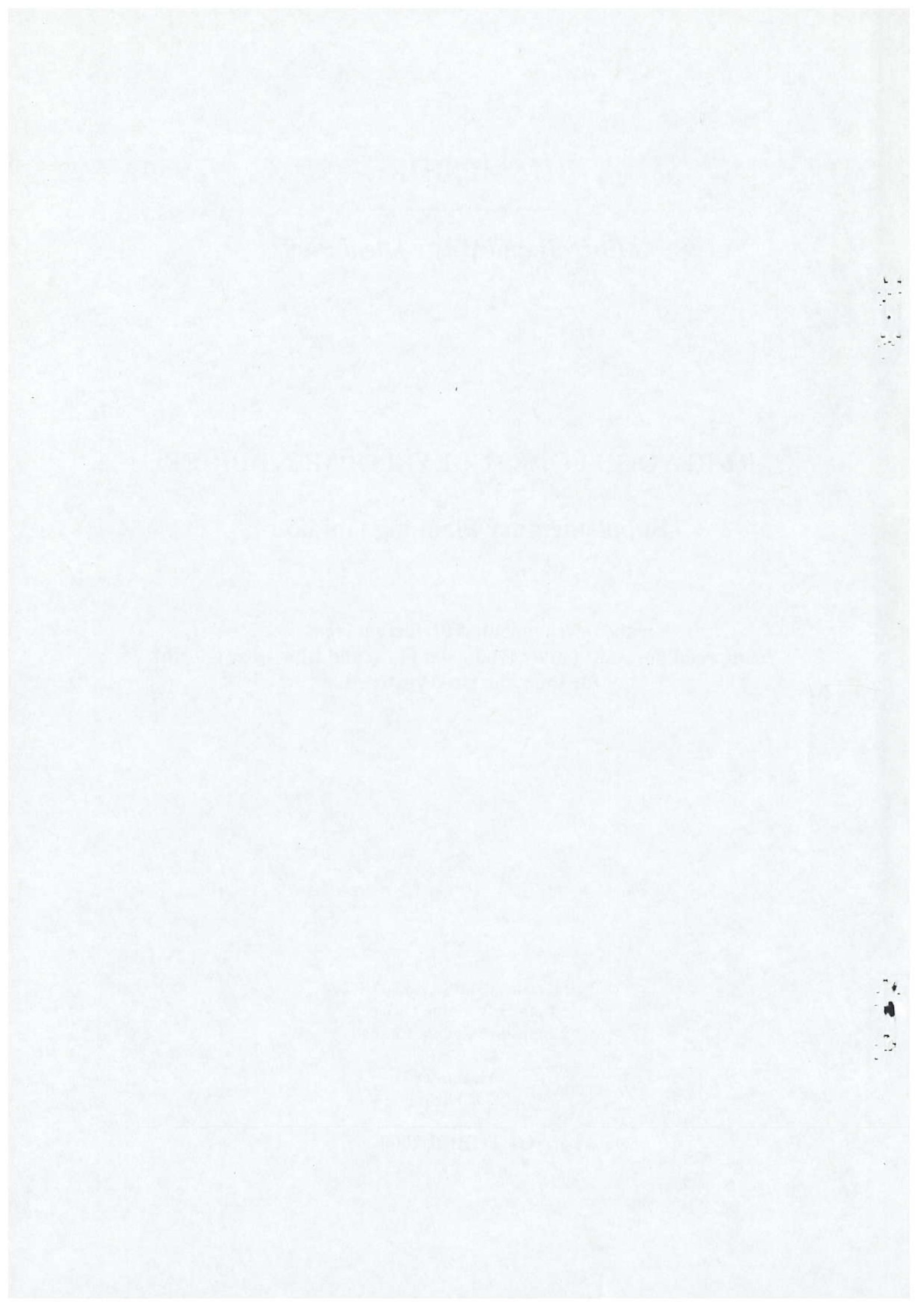
RINGWOOD FOREST DEVELOPMENT BRIEF

Supplementary Planning Guidance

**For the development of Preferred Areas 6 & 7
Ringwood Forest, Plumley Wood and Farm and Blue Haze (North)
for sand and gravel extraction**

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Supplementary Planning Guidance

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton Minerals and Waste Local Plan was adopted by the County Council and Portsmouth and Southampton City Councils in December 1998. The Plan identifies preferred areas for sand and gravel extraction to provide for requirements over the period to 2001, plus provision for a seven year landbank of permitted reserves at that date (i.e. to 2008). Policy 19 of the Plan states that planning permission will be granted for sand and gravel extraction within the preferred areas provided the proposals meet the criteria for development for the area.
- 1.2 Plumley Wood and Farm and Blue Haze (North), Ringwood Forest are included in the Plan as Preferred Areas 6 and 7 for sand and gravel extraction and subsequent infilling. The locations of these preferred areas are shown on the attached Location Plan. Plumley Wood and Farm comprises 142 hectares of mainly coniferous woodland and farmland close to the county boundary with Dorset, to the west of the existing Hamer Warren/Bleak Hill gravel pit and north-west of Harbridge Drove. Blue Haze (North) comprises an area of 7 hectares of coniferous woodland adjoining the existing sand extraction site at Blue Haze, east of the B3081 Ringwood-Verwood road and west of Harbridge Drove.
- 1.3 Both of these preferred areas are within the Somerley Estate. Forest Enterprise holds a 999-year lease of the forested land. The boundaries of the Preferred Areas are shown on the attached plan extracts from the Minerals and Waste Local Plan.
- 1.4 The existing Blue Haze Sandpit and the adjacent worked out Chatsworth Sandpit together form Preferred Area 10 for waste disposal by landfilling. Planning permission for this development was granted in June 1999, and work has commenced on site.
- 1.5 Preferred Areas 6 and 7 lie within an area of existing and past minerals and waste operations within the parish of Ellingham, Harbridge and Ibsley. These operations include the current working sites at: Somerley Landfill; Blue Haze; Nea Farm; Hamer Warren/Bleak Hill; Snails Lane; Blashford Quarry; Ringwood Pit; and Ibsley. These sites are indicated on the attached Location Plan.
- 1.6 There are no current mineral workings or landfill operations within the Dorset part of the Ringwood Forest/Somerley area and there are no proposals for such operations in the Dorset Minerals and Waste Local Plan.
- 1.7 The two preferred areas are within the designated Ringwood Forest Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), originally proposed in 1995, which was selected on the basis of the presence of heathland and relict