

North Lincolnshire Local Plan ;Initial Consultation (Regulation 18),April 2017

Representation on behalf of the **Mineral Products Association (MPA)**.

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The MPA wish to be kept informed of the progress of the Local Plan.

Managing Our Natural & Built Environment

Questions 16,17,and 18

The current core strategy (June 2011), while identifying core principles with respect to mineral development is out of date and does not reflect the current National Planning Policy Framework. The new North Lincolnshire Local Plan needs to reflect this.

It is also understood also that development management policies in respect on minerals are saved ones from 2003 and again these issues need to be addressed in the Local Plan.

Policies in the local plan should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development so such development can be approved without delay (NPPF para. 14 and 15).

The current core strategy recognises the importance of minerals to the economy and society and this needs to be carried through to the local plan and properly reflect paragraph 142 of the NPPF.

North Lincolnshire will also need to plan for a steady a steady and adequate supply of aggregates (NPPF para. 145) and ensure the provision for the maintenance of landbanks of at least 7 years for sand and gravel and at least 10 years for crushed rock.

Additionally the Local Authority needs to plan for a steady and adequate supply of industrial minerals and provide a stock of permitted reserves of;

- at least 10 years for individual silica sand sites
- At least 15 years for cement primary (chalk and limestone) and secondary (clay and shale) materials, and for silica sand sites where significant new capital is required.

In respect of housing and infrastructure aspirations for the plan the local authority should require an assessment of the construction material needs for such developments so that it can inform the level of permitted mineral reserves required over the plan period (NPPF para 163).

It is vital that the Local Plan also has a robust safeguarding policy for minerals by defining Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSA) as required by NPPF para. 142 and define Mineral Consultation Areas based on the MSAs. A safeguarding policy needs to prevent the needless sterilisation of mineral resources by inappropriate development either on the mineral or in its proximity .As such any policy needs to have appropriate buffer zones identified.

The Local Authority must adopt a systematic approach for safeguarding mineral resources as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance(PPG) for Minerals (ID 27-003-20140306).Detail advice on mineral safeguarding may be found in the British Geological Survey report '*Mineral Safeguarding in England: good practice advice*' (<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/downloads/start.cfm?id=1333>)

Any MSAs should be identified on an appropriate scale ordnance base plan. The current plan in the existing core strategy is inadequate.

In addition the local plan must also have a robust policy to safeguard existing, planned and potential sites for concrete batching, the manufacture of coated materials, concrete products and the handling, processing and distribution of substitute, recycled and secondary aggregate.

Furthermore the plan must safeguard existing, planned and potential rail heads, rail links to quarries, wharfage and associated storage, handling and processing facilities for the bulk transport by rail, sea or inland waterways of minerals, including sea-dredged and recycled and secondary materials.

The Local Authority needs to consider how to meet the demands for the extraction of building stone at, or close to, relic quarries needed for repair of heritage assets. Areas of building stone need also to be safeguarded, see link below;

https://www.bgs.ac.uk/mineralsuk/buildingStones/StrategicStoneStudy/EH_atlases.html

When considering policies in respect of wildlife, geodiversity and landscape areas it is important that any such policies should make the proper distinction between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites so that protection is commensurate with their status (NPPF para. 113).

M E North

13/04/17

