

Shropshire Local Plan Review;Consutation on Issues and Startegic Options March 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 Review.

Comment

It is noted that this a partial review of the Local Plan and concentrates on;

- Housing requirement
- Strategic Distribution of future growth
- Strategies for employment growth
- Delivering development in rural settlements

It is also understood that at a later stage the partial review process will also consider amongst other things '*provision to maintain sand and gravel production*'.

The concern that the MPA has is that if additional land is allocated for housing and employment that safeguarding both of mineral resources/reserves and added value operations e.g. concrete batching plants, coated stone plants, construction waste recycling etc. must be a part of the consideration. The selection of any additional housing/employment must have consideration to safeguarding as required by the NPPF (para.143), and no sites should be selected such as to be located on mineral resource or in its proximity to prejudice the future working of that mineral. The same applies to mineral infrastructure/added value operations.

It is suggested that the identification of mineral resources and infrastructure for safeguarding is undertaken as part of this partial review of the plan.

The document is positive about the future growth potential both in Shropshire and the much wider region especially on the back of major infrastructure projects such as HS2 and the Midlands Engine.

Shropshire has historically supplied not only its own need for aggregates but supplied material further afield regionally. There is therefore an opportunity in this review of the plan to put in policies that require developers to produce supply audits that identify in numerical terms the requirement for building materials such as aggregates, concrete etc. in relation to developments.

An attempt should be made to identify these figures through the plan, not only for developments within Shropshire but also for the regional infrastructure projects, which will further inform the partial review of *'provision to maintain sand and gravel production'*.

M E North

17/03/17