

Foreword

As planning authorities for minerals and waste in their respective areas, Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council have a duty to make decisions on planning applications for those types of developments. Both authorities also have a duty to produce planning policies, in the context of national planning policy, which are used to help take those decisions. Due to the scale, nature and location of these forms of development, those decisions can often be controversial.

Minerals such as limestone, sand and gravel, clay and vein minerals are essential raw materials, which are used to provide the infrastructure, buildings and goods that our country needs and which help support economic growth and development. Other minerals, such as coal and onshore oil and gas, are important in helping meet our energy needs. The area of Derbyshire has a wealth of mineral resources and has a long history of mining and quarrying which has influenced how the area now appears and functions. In some areas, mining and the other industries they supported, created significant numbers of jobs and were an important part of local community life. Whilst the decline of the coal mining sector has resulted in a significant decline in mineral based employment, the local mining industry remains a very important facet of the area and its economy.

Derbyshire is renowned for its varied and attractive landscapes which support an important tourist industry. The geographical county includes part of the Peak District National Park area which is also an important visitor attraction. Many of the important mineral resources are to be found in these areas of high landscape value, whilst other minerals are located in areas close to the main built-up areas and the historic environments they contain. It is therefore especially important to ensure that the working of essential minerals takes place without causing harm to these features and local communities.

Ensuring a steady and adequate supply of the important minerals which are required to meet our needs can lead to pressure for new development, such as new or extended quarries and other forms of mineral extraction. As well as delivering benefits, these developments can generate impacts which could affect our environment, communities, our quality of life and climate change. Obvious examples of impacts include noise and dust, lorry movements and even changes to the landscape of the area.

The two authorities are working together, therefore, to prepare a new Minerals Local Plan, which once finalised, will set out planning policies to help us take decisions on matters such as where, when and how minerals developments should be planned, controlled and allowed up to the end of the Plan period in 2030.

The focus of work on this Plan began in 2009 and included a series of consultations, the most recent being the rolling consultation exercise in 2015/16 when we sought views on the development of the overarching vision and objectives and the broad approach to the future provision for the important minerals present in the area. The feedback from these consultation exercises, particularly the most recent consultation, has helped us develop and progress the Plan to this current stage.

About this Consultation

This Proposed Approach consultation is an important step in the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan. It takes account of the evidence base built-up during the earlier stages of this plan, the requirements of national mineral planning policy and the responses to the previous consultation exercises, to present a draft version of the new Plan. It sets out the draft vision and objectives and overarching strategic sustainability principles which will underpin the Plan, together with the approach to the provision for each of the important minerals found in the area and which are likely to be in demand during the Plan period.

It also contains a set of draft policies which will be used to assess and determine new development proposals. Importantly, it provides an opportunity for you to let us know your views on these matters before the Plan is finalised.

How to Get Involved

It is very important that as many people as possible get involved and tell us what they think. By doing so, you can shape decision making policy on applications within the Plan area. You can help by telling us your thoughts on the draft we have set out. In particular, we would welcome your thoughts on whether we have identified:

- An appropriate vision and objectives for the Plan
- An appropriate statement of the overarching strategic sustainability principles for the area
- The right approach to the future provision for minerals found in the area
- The right policies for future mineral development

Further details of the consultation, including a range of supporting documents are available on the website:

www.consultations.derbyshirepartnership.gov.uk

For the documents in alternative formats please contact 01629 533190

Comments can be submitted;

online at www.consultations.derbyshirepartnership.gov.uk

emailed to ete.wastemin@derbyshire.gov.uk

or posted to Development Plan Team, County Hall, Matlock, DE4 3AG

DERBYSHIRE AND DERBY MINERALS LOCAL PLAN

Towards a Minerals Local Plan: Spring 2018 Consultation

CHAPTER 1 Introduction

December 2017



Chapter 1 – Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Minerals Local Plan is being produced for Derbyshire, covering the City of Derby and the administrative County of Derbyshire, apart from the area within the Peak District National Park. Figure 1 below shows the area covered by the new Plan. It will be called the Derbyshire and Derby Joint Minerals Local Plan and will cover the period up to 2030.

Statutory Requirement

- 1.2 Planning authorities are required to prepare Development Plans, setting out policies for the development and use of land in their area. Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council are minerals and waste planning authorities, with Derby City having responsibility for all other types of development. The two authorities are also preparing a Waste Local Plan which will be the subject of a separate consultation exercise at a later date.
- 1.3 The role of the Development Plan is to guide future development of the area. It forms the starting point for decision making on planning applications. Proposed development that accords with an-up-to-date plan should be approved and proposed development that conflicts should be refused unless other material considerations indicate otherwise.

Why produce a Joint Plan

- 1.4 There is recognition that minerals (and waste) planning issues often affect larger than local areas and can best be planned for at a wider than local level. This was previously recognised by the two authorities, resulting in the agreement to jointly prepare the current Minerals and Waste Local Plans. In addition, one of the key changes to the planning system under the 2011 Localism Act has been the introduction of the 'duty to co-operate', which seeks to enhance the way planning authorities work together to consider preparing joint plans. As a result, the two authorities have decided to continue this arrangement and prepare new

joint plans. On 25 January 2017, Derby City Council adopted the Derby City Local Plan – Part 1 Core Strategy setting out the long-term strategy for the spatial development of the City area to 2028 for matters other than minerals and waste.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 1.5 The Sustainability Appraisal process is a way of promoting sustainable development through the better integration of sustainability considerations throughout the preparation of the Plan. The process involves testing the impact of the Plan against a series of Sustainability Objectives. Where the process recommends improvements to the Plan, these will be incorporated.
- 1.6 The findings of the Sustainability Appraisal are incorporated and discussed in each chapter of the Plan.

What's been done so far?

- 1.7 Work began in 2009 on preparing a replacement for the adopted Derby and Derbyshire Minerals Local Plan, 2000 (and the subsequent 2002 amendment). At the time it was intended to produce a plan in the form of a Core Strategy setting out the Vision and Objectives, Key Strategies and identifying strategic sites where appropriate. This was to be accompanied by an Implementation Document containing development management policies and other site allocations. Following the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework in 2012, the Councils are now preparing a single, all-embracing plan.
- 1.8 The initial work in 2009 consisted of hosting a series of Key Stakeholder workshops to develop the Vision and Objectives and to scope the issues that would need to be addressed in the new plan. These issues were used as a basis for the first formal consultation stage; the Issues and Options exercise, April 2010. This consultation developed the main issues

identified previously and suggested how we could deliver an environmentally sound plan that would continue to deliver an appropriate amount of minerals, whilst maintaining environmental and other safeguards, and which had the support of communities and the minerals industry.

1.9 Further consultations were carried out in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. As work on the provision for sand and gravel was more advanced than some other aspects of the Plan, the authorities hosted a series of drop-in sessions and meetings in the areas where further potential extraction sites had been identified. Views expressed on these sites and the overall provision that should be made for sand and gravel were incorporated into the 2015/16 consultation exercise and further into this consultation.

1.10 The rolling consultation in 2015/16 sought to develop the vision and objectives, together with the strategies and policies of the new Plan by seeking to establish the proposed broad approach towards all these aspects. It consisted of a series of papers setting out the background to each mineral and issue (Supporting Papers) and a range of potential options in the Consultation Papers relating to the underlying sustainability principles, the vision and objectives, provision for each mineral and the policies that would be included to assess and determine future development proposals.

Consultation Responses

1.11 Consultation activities have been carried out to ensure that the views of individuals, the minerals industry, statutory bodies and other interested parties are taken into account during the early stages of Plan preparation.

Details of the responses received to the previous consultation stages can be found at :

**Towards a Minerals Local Plan: Spring 2018 Consultation
Report of Representations and Responses, December 2017.**

1.12 Views expressed in response to the 2015/16 consultation together with relevant information gathered from previous work at earlier stages has been carried forward into the development of the new Plan and has been incorporated into this consultation.

What is the Proposed Approach Consultation Stage?

1.13 The previous consultation stages have looked at all the important aspects of the new Plan but with a focus on individual issues and minerals. This consultation seeks to develop those important aspects and present them in a coherent and comprehensive way that will be incorporated in the Draft Plan. It attempts to progress towards a draft version to present the intended Plan in its entirety and so that it is possible to see how the respective parts inter-relate. It will show how the vision and objectives relate to the overarching strategic sustainability principles, which in turn relate to and influence the suggested approach to each mineral and issue and the policies that will be included.

1.14 The consultation provides an important opportunity for interested parties, including Town and Parish Councils, District and Borough Councils, operators, developers, landowners, community and interest groups and the people of Derbyshire, to influence the content of the Plan before a Draft Plan is prepared and a final version is subsequently published for

Examination in Public. The consultation responses received at this stage, along with the Sustainability Appraisal and further consideration of the evidence base and other relevant policy, will then help us prepare the Draft Plan, which will itself be subject to further consultation before an independent examination takes place.