



Worcestershire
Minerals Local Plan

Consultation

Summer 2015



Call for sites:

In Summer 2014 we made a call for locations for aggregate extraction that we should consider in the development of the Minerals Local Plan. We are currently collating information to enable the proposed sites to be assessed in order to identify as specific sites in the Plan.

This is a call for sites for non-aggregate minerals.

This includes clay, building stone, silica sand, salt and brine, coal and any other minerals you would like to draw our attention to. It is also a **further call for sites for aggregate minerals**, these being sand and gravel and crushed rock.

We will need the following information to assess whether the sites you propose should be included in the Minerals Local Plan (you may find the interactive map useful):

- A **location plan**, preferably on an OS map base.
- An estimate of the **quantity of mineral resource**. Borehole or other survey results would be helpful.
- Details of **minerals operator(s)** interested in working the site (an estimate of when they might expect to bring the site forward would help us to plan delivery through the plan period).

- Details of **landowner(s)** and confirmation that they would support mineral working. Landowners should be aware from the start of the process that sites may not be fully restored to agricultural use following extraction.
- Details of any **landowner or community aspirations** for the land which might influence site restoration and after-use options.
- Potential **site access** options (water, rail, conveyor and/or road).
- **Processing options** – would you expect processing plant to be provided on site, or would material be transported to another site for processing?

Please note, **any information you submit will be in the public domain**. We will consider any sites put forward and consult on them as part of the draft plan we intend to submit to the Secretary of State for Examination.

Please respond by **Friday 25th September 2015**. If you have sites that you wish to submit for consideration but do not feel able to meet this deadline please contact us during this period to discuss alternative arrangements.



Safeguarding mineral resources and infrastructure:

We need to safeguard the known location of specific mineral resources of local and national importance to make sure that they are not needlessly sterilised by non-mineral development. We have undertaken an analysis of mineral resources to inform our approach. We would welcome your comments on this assessment:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/mineralsbackground.

We also need to identify the following types of infrastructure for safeguarding where appropriate. This includes:

- existing, planned and potential rail heads, rail links to quarries, wharfage and associated storage, handling and processing facilities for the bulk transport by rail or inland waterways of minerals, including recycled, secondary and marine-dredged materials; and
- existing, planned and potential sites for concrete batching, the manufacture of coated materials, other concrete products and the handling, processing and distribution of substitute, recycled and secondary aggregate material

If you there are any infrastructure features that you think we should safeguard please provide:

- A **location plan**, preferably on an OS map base.
- Details of **minerals operator(s)** interested in using the site or infrastructure (an estimate of when they might expect to bring the site forward or when it's useful life might come to an end would help us to plan delivery through the plan period).
- Details of **landowner(s)** and confirmation that they would support those essential operations.
- Existing or potential **site access** proposals.

Please note, **any information you submit will be in the public domain**. We will consider any sites put forward and consult on them as part of the draft plan we intend to submit to the Secretary of State for Examination.

Please respond by **Friday 25th September 2015**. If you have sites that you wish to submit for consideration but do not feel able to meet this deadline please contact us during this period to discuss alternative arrangements.

How else you can help:

To inform the development of the Minerals Local Plan so far we have prepared a suite of background documents. We would appreciate any comments on these documents

- Analysis of Mineral Resources (updated)
- Sand and Gravel in Worcestershire (new)
- Crushed rock in Worcestershire (new)
- Clay in Worcestershire (updated)
- Building stone in Worcestershire
- Silica sand in Worcestershire (new)
- Salt and brine in Worcestershire
- Coal in Worcestershire (updated)
- Oil and Gas in Worcestershire (new)
- Batching plant in Worcestershire (new)
- Local Aggregates Assessment (updated)
- Supply of industrial and energy minerals
- Biodiversity and mineral sites in Worcestershire: Guidance for the sustainable management of biodiversity action plan habitats at Worcestershire mineral sites
- Contributing towards Worcestershire's priorities
- Minerals and Climate Change
- The Malvern Hills Acts
- Profile documents for the Environmental Character Areas

These are available at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/mineralsbackground or on request, again please respond by **Friday 25th September**.

AMR

We published the Annual Monitoring Report 2013/14 in December 2014 to monitor progress in achieving the Local Development Scheme and the effectiveness of our policies. It also includes Annexes updating the Local Aggregates Assessment and reporting on Duty to Cooperate activities. Please send any comments you may have on the Annual Monitoring Report to the contact details below.

Next Steps:

The Council has recently published a new Local Development Scheme setting out a revised timetable for the development of the Minerals Local Plan. The next full consultation on this plan is scheduled to take place in Spring 2016. This is anticipated to set out draft plan and policy wording for detailed comment and to include detail about the specific locations where mineral development should be focused.

We will take the consultation comments into account and make any alterations prior to a consultation on the soundness of the proposed plan in Spring 2017 and submission of the plan to Secretary of State for public examination in Summer 2017.

Please send your information to minerals@worcestershire.gov.uk or by post to the address below:

Write to: **FREEPOST RTHC-XXCK-AJGY**
Minerals and Waste Planning Policy
County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester
WR5 2NP

Phone us on **01905 766374** if you have any questions about this consultation or would like any further information about the Minerals Local Plan.

