

Emerging Draft Vision

Minerals Provision

Over the Plan period to 2030, Derbyshire will continue to provide a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet its share of local and national needs. Minerals development will continue to reflect the importance of the industry to the area and to make a positive contribution to delivering the materials required to support planned growth and to sustain the local, regional and national economies, whilst protecting and enhancing the area's environment.

The supply of minerals will have the support of those who live and work in the area through the close co-operation between the minerals industry, local communities, local authorities within and adjacent to the area and all other interested parties.

Sustainable Development

Minerals development will be located, designed and operated in accordance with the economic, social and environmental principles of sustainable development. Minerals will continue to be recognised as a valuable natural resource whereby they are extracted and used as efficiently as possible and the maximum benefit is obtained by reusing minerals wherever possible.

Spatial Distribution of Minerals Development

Within natural geological constraints, minerals development will be located in areas to optimise the match between the locations of supply and demand and which allow the use of the most sustainable form of transport.

Safeguarding of Mineral Resources and Facilities

Mineral resources and the facilities which enable the sustainable processing and transport of extracted minerals will be safeguarded from inappropriate development.

Protection of Local Communities, the Natural and Built Environment and Cumulative Impacts

Minerals developments will contribute to the protection of the areas outstanding environmental assets and the quality of the built environment. All developments will be located, designed and operated in accordance with the highest practicable standards to ensure that they do not adversely impact on the historic environment, landscape character and biodiversity of the area and will incorporate proposals to ensure that sites are restored to the most appropriate use, providing maximum benefit to the area and local communities.

Minerals development will also be located, designed, operated and restored to prevent any adverse cumulative impacts on the area, either as a direct result of the development or in association with other developments.

Protection of the Peak District National Park

Derbyshire will help to protect the special quality and characteristics of the Peak District National Park area by assisting in achieving a progressive reduction of minerals obtained from sites in the Peak Park.

Flood Risk and Climate Change

Minerals developments will be located, designed and operated in ways which help to reduce flood risk and maintain or enhance water quality. Developments will also be located, designed and operated to ensure that impacts on climate change are minimised.

Emerging Draft Objectives

The Plan will need to include appropriate mechanisms to ensure that the Vision is delivered. The identification of Objectives is one way the Plan can express the mechanisms that it will include. Some aspects of the Vision may only be deliverable by one particular mechanism whilst other could be delivered by a variety of methods and a variety of different methods in combination. The list below identifies those mechanisms and methods that could be used for this purpose.

Objective 1 - Ensuring a Steady and Adequate Supply of Minerals

The provision for a steady and adequate supply of minerals will be delivered by the identification and maintenance of future supply requirements in line with national planning policy and locally agreed estimates. This will include the figures identified in the Local Aggregate Assessment and maintaining adequate landbanks for other minerals and the provision of an adequate number of sites.

Objective 2 - Delivering Sustainable Minerals Development

Delivering sustainable minerals development will be achieved by the combined implementation of all the policies and proposals of the new Plan. It will include the location of new and extended mineral extraction sites in areas which can help deliver the economic, social and environmental principles of sustainable development and by ensuring the more efficient exploitation and use of primary mineral resources by minimising waste, increasing levels of secondary and recycled aggregates and the reuse of all other minerals.

Objective 3 - Achieving the most Appropriate Spatial Distribution of Mineral Development

This includes developing locational policy which encourages new or extended minerals developments in locations as near as possible to where they will be used and which can be delivered using the highest standard of transport links. The locational policy will be developed with regard to the restrictions which are imposed by choices being limited to where mineral resources are present and to sites which are genuinely deliverable.

Objective 4 – Safeguarding Mineral Resources and Facilities

Mineral resources and the facilities which are used to process and transport extracted minerals will be protected from inappropriate development that would impair their availability and use for future generations. This will include the identification and safeguarding of surface and underground mineral resources of local and national importance, important aggregates supply and transport infrastructure such as rail heads, coating and concrete plants and effective co-operation with the district and borough councils in the area.

Objective 5 – Minimising Impacts on Communities

The Plan will minimise the potential adverse impacts of minerals development on local communities in the area by protecting their existing amenity, quality of life, social fabric and health. Particular emphasis will be given to the need to prevent further cumulative impacts. This will include developing locational policy to ensure the appropriate separation between minerals sites and the places where people live and work, policies which promote the highest standards of design and operation and setting out criteria to ensure that only acceptable development proposals are allowed.

Objective 6 – Protecting the Natural and Built Environment

The Plan will conserve and enhance the area's natural and built environment, including its distinctive landscapes, habitats, wildlife and other important features by avoiding, minimising and mitigating potential adverse impacts of minerals developments.

Objective 7 – Protecting the Peak District National Park

The Plan will continue to help protect and preserve the special qualities and characteristics of the Peak District National Park through the implementation of its policies and proposals. This will include making sufficient provision for minerals from within the Plan area to help achieve a progressive reduction in mineral extraction from the Peak Park area to help minimise the impacts of further developments.

Objective 8 – Minimising Flood Risk and Climate Change

The Plan will seek to minimise and mitigate the risk of flooding and the impacts of climate change arising from minerals developments. This will include the development of locational policy to avoid inappropriate locations and encouraging well designed and operated developments that make provision for the management of water, minimise the use of machinery emissions and transport, the location and use of processing plant and by securing appropriate forms of restoration which address how sites interact with their surroundings in the longer term.