

DRAFT MINERALS CORE STRATEGY
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Notes for representations to Dorset County Council

The following is a summary of certain possible representations which were discussed at the open meeting of 19 November.

Scoring System

When considering sites for inclusion in the final list the relevant factors should:-

- (a) be scored on a numerical rather than a colour based system so that high negatives scores led automatically to the exclusion of such sites or
- (b) if a red amber green system were to be used a red indicator against any criterion should result in the exclusion of that site and/or
- (c) on a numerical based system the top score against any one or more criterion should lead to the exclusion of the site.

Objectives

- (a) The preservation of natural landscape to be given primacy as a criterion over the extraction of underlying mineral resources.
- (b) The support of sustainable communities by securing the supply of minerals not to be an objective unless perhaps the community is within the same district; e.g. not Bournemouth, Poole or the South East.
- (c) Maximisation of opportunities for environmental enhancement through the restoration of worked sites not to be an objective since the result would be ten or fifteen years of open workings followed by water filled pits in place of original landscape even if they ultimately became fishing or sailing lakes.

Extraction Strategy for Sand and Gravel - criteria

- (a) Unsatisfactory vehicular access or absence of access to a trunk road (rather than simply an A road) to present a complete bar to extraction.
- (b) No extraction if access through an existing residential settlement.
- (c) Protect and maintain intact the natural environment of the Stour Valley as an unbreachable principle.
- (d) Take plateau gravel rather than river gravel. No river gravel to be taken whilst recycled materials and/or sea dredged sand and gravel are available within a 50

kilometre radius. No extraction to take place either in an area with identified flood risks or otherwise within the flood plain of the river valley.

(e) Do not accept Sites of Alternative Natural Green Space as a substitute for original landscape.

(f) Regard the fact that a community has already suffered mineral extraction as an absolute bar to subjecting it to further extraction.

(g) Inclusion in or proximity to an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or similar designation to be an absolute bar on extraction.

(h) Proximity of less than one kilometre from residential settlements to be an absolute bar on extraction.

(i) Proximity to listed buildings or buildings of architectural heritage should prevent extraction in the vicinity.

(j) No site to be used for extraction where unusual or listed floral or fauna have been seen or recorded.

(k) No interference with public rights of way.