

Chairman's Announcement

Minerals Sites in Wiltshire and Swindon

Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council jointly submitted the Proposed Submission draft Aggregate Minerals Site Allocations Local Plan (the Site Allocations Plan) (formerly Development Plan Document (DPD))¹ to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 20 July 2012 along with supporting evidence reports and proposed minor modifications to the Plan stemming from the final, pre-submission round of consultation held earlier this year.

The Site Allocations Plan sets out a series of proposals for locating 7 new sand and gravel quarries within the plan area² to meet the councils' locally derived forecast provision requirements of 1.2 million tonnes per annum through the plan period up to 2026. Details of these sites are presented below.

Proposed minerals site name/location	Size of site hectares (ha)	Estimated resource yield	Current land use	Community Area
Cox's Farm	106.1	2,400,000	Agricultural	Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade
Blackburr Farm	49.7	812,000	Agricultural	
North Farm	75.6	300,000	Agricultural	
Land east of Calcutt	172.6	2,200,000	Agricultural	
Land at Cotswold Community	38.56	2,760,000	Agricultural/ former educational and residential facility	Malmesbury
Land near Compton Bassett	23.4	450,000	Agricultural	Calne
Extensions to Brickworth Quarry	25.2	1,948,000	Agricultural/ Woodland	South Wiltshire

The Site Allocations Plan has been developed with a restoration led approach at its heart (seeking biodiversity and amenity enhancements **not** the landfilling of putrescible waste), advocating upfront consideration of suitable after uses for the minerals sites in the document.

Copies of all submission documents including copies of representations made and other supporting documents which, in the opinion of the councils, are relevant to the preparation of the Site Allocations Plan are available to view on the councils' website at <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningpolicy/mineralsandwastepolicy/aggregatemineralssiteallocations.htm> and on the councils' dedicated online consultation portal: <http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>.

For those without access to a computer, hard copies of the documents can be viewed in the Council's offices in Chippenham (Monkton Park), Devizes (Browfort), Salisbury (Milford Street) and Trowbridge (County Hall and Bradley Road) and Swindon Borough Council (Wat Tyler House) as well as all local libraries.

¹ For minerals and waste matters, Wiltshire Council prepares its policy framework jointly with Swindon Borough Council.

² For minerals planning, the plan area delineates the boundary of Wiltshire and Swindon, excluding the New Forest.

Please note, due to office closures, documents will only be available at Browfort until 30th September 2012 and at Bradley Road until the 30th November 2012.

The Site Allocations Plan is now being subjected to an independent examination, conducted by the Planning Inspectorate to determine if the Plan can be considered sound. This is a continuous process running from the date of submission through to the receipt of the appointed Planning Inspector's Report.

Part of this process will involve hearing sessions where those invited to attend will have the opportunity to respond to matters raised by the appointed Planning Inspector. These hearing sessions are provisionally scheduled to commence on 23 October 2012. Once confirmed, all details relating to the examination process will be advertised and made available online. In addition, information will be sent directly to all those who made representations at the last stage in the plan preparation process informing them as to how they can get involved in the examination process.

Officer Contacts: Minerals and Waste Policy Team on 01225 713429
Email mineralsandwastepolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk

Weblink:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningpolicy/mineralsandwastepolicy/aggregatemineralssiteallocations.htm>

Further details:

<http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>