

**GREATER MANCHESTER  
JOINT MINERALS PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010

**SUBJECT:** GREATER MANCHESTER JOINT MINERALS  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT (JMDPD):  
OUTCOMES FROM THE REPORT 'IDENTIFYING AND  
PROTECTING MINERAL RESOURCES IN GREATER  
MANCHESTER'

**REPORT OF:** Chair of the JMDPD Officer Steering Group

**1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1.1 This report seeks to inform Members of the comments received during the six-week consultation on the Report 'Identifying and Protecting Mineral Resources in Greater Manchester'.

**2 GENERAL**

2.1 The Report 'Identifying and Protecting Mineral Resources in Greater Manchester' was issued for public consultation from the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2009 to the 8<sup>th</sup> January 2010. The Report was made available online and industry, landowners, adjoining authorities and other parties were informed by letter or email about the consultation.

2.2 Eleven responses were received from the following organisations:

- Natural England
- Environment Agency
- The Coal Authority
- The Confederation of Coal Producers
- Mineral Planning Group
- Horwich Town Council
- Cheshire West and Chester Council
- 4NW
- Network Rail
- Carter Jonas
- Peel Environmental

2.3 A detailed analysis of responses and the subsequent recommendations has been set out within a separate report at Appendix 1: 'Outcomes Report on the Report 'Identifying and Protecting Mineral Resources in Greater Manchester'.

### **3 SUMMARY OF COMMENTS**

- The Energy White Paper published in May 2007 estimates that by 2020 fossil fuels are expected to supply the great majority of the UK's energy needs and 14% of primary energy demand will be met by coal.
- Shallow coal forms part of a nationally significant resource and should therefore be safeguarded.
- All shallow coal resources within the urban area should be safeguarded as they may be capable of being exploited economically in small quantities. For example, if large scale redevelopment is proposed within the urban area then prior extraction of coal should be considered. This may be sensible to do for stability reasons.
- Areas of search for coal from the 1986 Minerals Plan exclude known coal resources and the approach taken conflicts with more recent guidance in MPS1.
- Mineral Planning Group nominated Pilkington Quarry and land between Pilkington Quarry and Montcliffe for consideration as part of the Minerals Plan.

### **4. NEXT STEPS**

- 4.1 Responses received as a result of this consultation will be used to inform the evidence base and preparation of the Issues and Options Report.
- 4.2 All sites proposed through this consultation will be assessed for their suitability for inclusion within the Minerals Plan as part of the development of Preferred Options, following consultation on the forthcoming Issues and Options paper.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that the Joint Committee:

1. Approves the Outcomes Report from the consultation 'Identifying and Protecting Mineral Resources in Greater Manchester'.

### **CONTACT DETAILS**

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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Copies of the Outcomes Report are available to download from the AGMA website at [www.agma.gov.uk](http://www.agma.gov.uk) or alternatively by request from Philippa Lane at the above contact details.