Examination of the Doncaster Local Plan
Council Hearing Statement

Matter 15. Minerals

September 2020
Supply of minerals

Q15.1. Are the quantities of sand and gravel, and limestone (crushed rock), that Doncaster can supply during the Plan period set out in Table 10 justified and consistent with the requirements of national policy? Are the Council’s suggested changes to Table 10 and paragraphs 14.45 to 14.49 necessary to make the Plan sound, and would they be effective in so doing?

1. Doncaster produces the South Yorkshire sub region’s sand, gravel and crushed rock. The amount of extraction planned for is informed by Yorkshire and Humber Aggregate Working Party (Y&HAWP) Annual Monitoring Reports and Doncaster and Rotherham Local Aggregates Assessments (LAA) which monitors supply and demand within the Borough and provides evidence for the calculation of landbanks. Local requirement is also evidenced further through the ‘Forecasting the Demand for Aggregates’ evidence base paper.

2. Yes the quantities of aggregate minerals and associated policy 62 is justified and consistent with national policy. The aggregates mineral information shown in Table 10 is justified and consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The current Table 10 identifies the mineral situation at 2017 and the revised version will include the provision for Doncaster during the plan period. The figures shown in Table 10 are evidenced in the SDEB33-2018 Local Aggregates Assessment, which was ratified by the Yorkshire and Humber Aggregates Working Party (Y&HAWP). Doncaster is in a situation of ever decreasing supplies of sharp sand and gravel and new long term sand and gravel extraction sites are becoming rare. This situation is also affecting other areas in the Yorkshire and Humber region, East Midlands region and other areas nationally too. Paragraph 14.47 of the Local Plan explains the sand and gravel situation. At 2017 average extraction levels (0.31Mt), the reserve equals 5.6Mt and the landbank of permissions equates to nearly over 18 years, which is well above the required 7 year landbank. Although the landbank appears healthy the reserves are steadily depleting. The Council can confirm that Doncaster reserve is reducing and the amount of material extracted annually is steadily declining. SDEB33 - 2018 Local Aggregates Assessment page 6 provides a table of sand and gravel reserves and landbank figures. In 2008 for example, the reserve was over 10Mt and based on the average extraction rate at that time the landbank was 12 years. Basing a landbank on a 10 year (depleting) average extraction rate is flawed and landbank will never reduce below 7 years. This gives the impression of a good supply when this is not the case. This issue however, needs addressing at a national level. The suggested changes to table 10 in the Local Plan proposed in DMBC15 will clearly show what Doncaster can provide during the plan period to meet with NPPF requirement in paragraph 207. For sand and gravel this will be 5.6Mt

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1 Although Rotherham has one crushed rock mineral site which is not currently active
2 SDEB30
3 NPPF paragraph 203, ‘...it is essential that there is a sufficient supply of minerals...’
4 NPPF207e and f
5 DMBC15 Doncaster Local Plan 2015-2035 - Council’s Suggested Main Modifications 4 June 2020
(existing reserve) and 1.9Mt from new allocations. This equates to 0.42Mt per annum for the duration of the plan period and will be identified in the revised Table 10a if acceptable to the inspector. Revisions to paragraphs 14.46, 14.48 and 14.49 are also identified in DMBC15 (page 27) schedule of suggested changes to make the Local Plan clearer and therefore justified and effective.

3. In the opinion of the Council, the proposed changes to Table 10 will provide clarity and as such will improve the soundness by identifying the Local Provision. The changes have been proposed to address the issue identified by East Riding of Yorkshire Council. Although East Riding did not raise an objection to the policy wording, they expressed concerns about the landbank monitoring through the Annual Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA). East Riding took issue with the LAA for only showing the landbank based on 10 year rolling average sales. As the 10 year average sales included a period of reduced sales following the economic downturn and decreasing extraction rates they argue the landbank is artificially inflated. East Riding say this provides no impetus for Doncaster as the Minerals Planning Authority to grant new applications as the Landbank would never reduce below 7 years for sand and gravel. Doncaster addressed this issue in the 2019 LAA and subsequently addressed the way Table 10 was evidenced in the Local Plan to make it clearer. If acceptable to the inspector, the revised table will show the additional information including provision from the Local Plan allocations and the potential additional landbank. Table 10a will also clearly show Doncaster’s annual Local Provision at a fixed rate of 0.42Mt for sand and gravel and 2Mt for crushed rock. In line with national policy and guidance the Council accepts that landbanks should be used as an indicator of the security of aggregate minerals supply and to indicate when additional provision is needed or alternative supplies found. This fixed rate annual Local Provision provides additional information and can be used to identify and monitor local fluctuations in the minerals landbank in subsequent Local Aggregates Assessments alongside the ten year average and three year average.

4. Please note, although East Riding had an issue with the way the figures were portrayed in the 2018 Local Aggregates Assessment, every LAA produced by Doncaster Council has been ratified by Y&HAWP and as such should be seen to be a sound evidence base. The Council will improve the monitoring regime where appropriate and as such subsequent LAAs will also be monitored against the figures identified in Local Plan Table 10a (Doncaster’s Local Provision). This will allow the Local Plan to plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregate within the limitations of local current supply.
5. Sand, gravel and limestone crushed rock have a fundamental role in underpinning the local economy by providing aggregate for construction, dimension stone for prestige buildings and minerals for industry. In terms of justification and effectiveness, the mineral policies have been developed in line with national policies and guidelines. In this case, the purpose of the policies is to provide for a steady and adequate supply of aggregate minerals, in line with NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). Monitoring through the annual Local Aggregates Assessment will be used to determine the effectiveness of policy 62 (and other minerals policies where appropriate) in providing for and safeguarding mineral resources. The Council also acknowledges in the Local Plan that situations and circumstances change and commits to regular monitoring to determine effectiveness to insure the best approach to maintaining mineral supply.

6. The amount of sand and gravel provided for in Table 10 will more than adequately cover Doncaster’s development requirements, however, minerals extracted in Doncaster are exported (mostly) around the South and West Yorkshire sub regions. It should be noted therefore, that sand and gravel imports from Nottinghamshire will be essential to help meet development proposals for Doncaster as well as the rest of South and West Yorkshire. The issue of sharp sand and gravel resource depletion is acknowledged in the Statement of Common Ground (CSD13).

7. SDEB30 ‘Forecasting the Demand for Aggregates’, uses historic consumption data, sourced from annual monitoring surveys, historic housing delivery information and planned housing delivery to identify and estimate future Local Plan aggregate needs. This document estimates around 3.7 million tonnes (Mt) of aggregate will be needed annually to deliver South Yorkshire’s combined Local Plan requirements, and about 4.4Mt will be needed to deliver West Yorkshire’s Local Plan requirements.

8. The document estimates Doncaster and Rotherham will require annually a maximum of approximately 0.7Mt of combined aggregate (sand, gravel and limestone) to meet Local Plan growth proposals. Barnsley will require approximately 0.8Mt of aggregate annually and Sheffield will require 1.5Mt.

9. The West Yorkshire sub region is also on track to increase aggregate demand to meet Local Plan requirements. The estimated increase on aggregate requirements will also have an impact on reserves, leading to accelerated resource depletion especially for sand and gravel. Additional sand and gravel supplies will need to be found in the medium term to replace depleting reserves. Reserves of crushed rock can meet demand in the short to medium term but will require long-term review. The agreements in the Statement of Common Ground will assist the Minerals Planning Authority in addressing the NPPF requirements in terms of aggregate flows to and from the plan area.

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14 SDEB30. Paragraph 39, page 13
Q15.2. Are the existing mineral sites with planning permission; new mineral allocations/preferred areas; and areas of search for minerals referred to in policy 62 part A.6, listed in Tables 11 to 13, and defined on the Policies Map justified? Will they be effective in ensuring a steady and adequate supply of aggregates and industrial minerals?  

10. The existing mineral sites with planning permission; new mineral allocations/preferred areas; and areas of search for minerals are justified in line with national policy and guidance. The mineral sites shown in Error! Reference source not found. have extant permissions and contribute toward the aggregate landbank of permissions. The Mineral Planning Authority takes a positive approach towards applications for mineral extraction and great weight is given to the type of mineral to be extracted especially if it is in short supply, such as sharp sand and gravel.

11. The evidence base documents SDEB 29, 32, 32.1, 32.2 and 34 justify the Mineral Site Representations, Areas of Search and Mineral Safeguarding Areas respectively. Each document was prepared in line with national guidance (where available), best practice and consultation with neighbouring authorities and mineral operators.

12. Further justification for the new mineral allocations (preferred areas) is within the evidence base SDEB29, each representation was assessed against agreed criteria, which include: mineral deposit, planning history, economic justification, proposed operations, highways, rights of way and traffic issues (SA objective 3), housing, employment and ‘other’ options (SA objectives 1 and 5), landscape character (SA objective 12b), natural environment (SA objective 12) historic environment and cultural heritage (SA objective 13), best and most versatile land (SA objective 14a), air quality management areas (SA objective 14c), groundwater source protection zones (SA objective 14b), flood zones (SA objective 11a), coal authority land stability, conflict with incompatible uses, opportunities, airport consultation zone, cumulative impacts, main potential adverse impacts and appropriate assessment screening requirements (EU habitats directive). Each representation is also given a summary response and final decision.

13. The ‘preferred areas’ shown in Table 12 will provide 1.9Mt of sand and gravel increasing the landbank by 6 years based on ten year average extraction rates of 0.33Mt or 3.8 years based on the three year average extraction rate of 0.5Mt. as identified in table 10.

14. Identifying and Assessing Areas of Search (SDEB 32, 32.1 and 32.2) identifies and assesses broad areas of search for mineral extraction across Doncaster. The methodology comprises of specific elements:

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15 NPPF 207 and 208.
16 NPPF 204a
17 NPPF 207c
18 See also PPG Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 27-008-20140306 (revision date 06/03/2014)
19 NPPF paragraph 26 says 'Effective and on-going joint working between strategic policy-making authorities and relevant bodies is integral to the production of a positively prepared and justified strategy'
1) Identification and initial screening of Areas of Search for Aggregate Minerals
2) Detailed evaluation of the Areas of Search for Aggregate Minerals
3) Proposals for inclusion in the Local Plan

15. Part one of the process is the identification and initial screening of feasible areas:
   1a) Sourcing the information used to identify all relevant aggregate mineral areas
   1b) Identifying broad screening questions aimed at ascertaining major constraints, preventing progression to part 2 (detailed evaluation)

16. Part two is the detailed evaluation of areas and is a three stage process including:
   2a) Referencing our adopted sustainability appraisal to identify features and designations relevant to minerals allocations (National legislation and policy, and local policy direction will also be used to identify the relevant thematic areas and guidance)
   2b) Mapping proposed suitable areas identified in part 1 with features and designations identified part two, this stage will identify the relevant relationships to be considered at the next stage (workshop).
   2c) Assessment of Areas of Search proposals by a panel of experts to review the information collected throughout the assessment to inform the final decision on which allocations should be included for consultation.

17. The final stage identifies the Areas of Search allocations for inclusion within the Local Plan. The Areas of Search in Table 13 have been selected as being those that are most likely to produce the required aggregate mineral with the least impact on local amenity and the environment. The Yorkshire and Humber Annual Monitoring Report and Local Aggregate Assessment identify that good quality sharp sand and gravel deposits are increasingly in short supply, not only in Doncaster but also around the region. The Council therefore recognises the need to identify areas of land where aggregate minerals are likely to be available and extraction may be acceptable during the plan period. The allocated ‘Areas of Search’ are the most suitable and sustainable options for the aggregate industry to explore for, and possibly win and work, minerals during the life of the plan. These areas will assist the extractive industry by guiding the development of mineral resources toward what we consider our best options for exploration.

18. There is only one industrial mineral site in Doncaster. Following a representation from the site owners (Sibelco) the decision was made to allocate half of the representation area as an industrial mineral area of search and the remaining area as a safeguarded industrial mineral site in line with NPPF policy 208. This is evidenced in SDEB 29 Assessing Mineral Site Representations (pages 23, 24 and 25)

19. With regard to effectiveness and justification, please refer to paragraph 5 in response 15. 1.
20. The Council believes resource depletion is the reason for the limited number of proposals received (only four sand and gravel representations were received) and of these, two have been proposed in the Local Plan and the other two received planning consent during the Local Plan process. These are evidenced in Table 11 (existing mineral sites). Finningley Quarry (at 58s road) is subject to a minor change in Table 11 (see CSD6) and will need to say ‘extraction ceased July 2019’.

Q15.3. Is the requirement in policy 62 part A.5 for proposals for sand and gravel extraction to demonstrate that the mineral resource includes at least 20% sharp sand and gravel justified?

21. The justification for sand and gravel proposals to provide for at least 20% sharp sand and gravel is evidenced in regional monitoring reports and local aggregate assessments. Ongoing surveys, previous monitoring reports and aggregate assessments identify that sharp sand and gravel essential for concreting products is a declining resource locally regionally and nationally. The 2009 Aggregate Monitoring Report collects monitoring figures as part of a four yearly survey; this survey confirms that in 2009 85% of the sand and gravel landbank was made up of soft sand, which has a small but on-going demand. Paragraph 3.9 of the 2014 Yorkshire and Humber Annual Monitoring Report also confirms that that the reserves of sand and gravel in South Yorkshire are almost exclusively made up of soft sand deposits. The most recent Yorkshire and Humber Monitoring Survey (2018) paragraph 5.9 states ‘It should be noted that reserves of sand and gravel in South Yorkshire are still made up of 80% soft sand deposits.’

22. Evidence base document SDEB33 2018 Local Aggregates Assessment paragraph 18 (page 6) states ‘...historic returns and the Y&HAWP annual monitoring reports confirm that only a small proportion of the remaining permitted reserve in Doncaster is sharp sand suitable for use as concreting aggregate’. Paragraph 78 states ‘The level of sharp sand and gravel resource, which is used for concreting products also remains as an issue of local concern and dependence on imports is likely to remain and may increase if new sites are not forthcoming’.

23. Recent historic applications also demonstrate that sites are extracting an average of approximately 22% sharp sand and gravel, therefore the target of 20% is considered realistic as it takes account of local circumstances. For this reason the council believes it is justified in policy 62 part A.5 in asking for mineral applications to demonstrate 20% sharp sand and gravel as part of an application.

Safeguarding mineral resources

Q15.4. Are the mineral safeguarding areas listed in Table 15 (and shown on the Policies Map) and the requirements of policy 62 part B justified, and will they be
effective in ensuring that known locations of specific mineral resources are not sterilised by non-mineral development where that can be avoided\textsuperscript{20}\textsuperscript{21}.

24. NPPF paragraphs 204c and 206 require mineral planning authorities to identify mineral safeguarding areas and provide appropriate policies to ensure mineral resources of local and national importance are not sterilised by non-mineral development. The Local Plan clearly is therefore justified in line with the NPPF policies. The mineral safeguarding areas have been defined in line with PPG\textsuperscript{21}, which identifies what steps mineral planning authorities should take to safeguard resources. Document SDEB 34 Mineral Safeguarding Areas contains the evidence and justification for Doncaster’s mineral safeguarding areas (MSAs). The document is produced in accordance with national guidance\textsuperscript{22} and the British Geological Survey (BGS) Minerals Safeguarding in England: Good Practice Advice (Minerals and Waste Programme, Open Report OR/11/046 (2011)). The document includes an evaluation of the associated issues and constraints particular to Doncaster. The following stages were used as a basis for in the identification of MSAs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage One</th>
<th>Identify and assess the best available geological and mineral resource information available</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage Two</td>
<td>Decide which mineral resources will be safeguarded and the physical extent of the MSAs</td>
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<td>Stage Three</td>
<td>Undertake consultation on the draft MSAs</td>
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<td>Stage Four</td>
<td>Decide on the approach to safeguarding in the Local Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage Five</td>
<td>Consider and revise strategic policies (to replace the Core Strategy) in the Local Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage Six</td>
<td>Ensure Development Management Policies are include in the Local Plan</td>
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25. Given that Doncaster’s Mineral Safeguarding Areas have been developed using an agreed methodology, the best available geological and mineral resource information and assessment criteria, the Council believes the justification is assured through the evidence base. The Mineral Safeguarding Areas in \textbf{Error! Reference source not found.} are areas of known mineral resources that are considered to be of sufficient economic or conservation value to warrant protection beyond the plan period.

26. Policy 62 part B will be effective in ensuring consideration is given to the minerals in the mineral safeguarding areas. They are identified on the Policies Map giving due policy consideration to shallow coal, limestone, sand and gravel and industrial limestone resources during and beyond the plan period.

27. With regard to further effectiveness, please refer to paragraph 5 in response 15. 1.

\textsuperscript{20} NPPF 204(c).
\textsuperscript{21} Paragraph: 003 Reference ID: 27-003-20140306
\textsuperscript{22} PPG paragraphs 002 Reference ID: 27-002-20140306 to Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 27-006-20140306
(revision data 06/03/2014)
28. Whilst checking through the Local Plan it has become apparent that there is a duplicated sentence in paragraphs 14.53 and 14.55. The Council would like to suggest deleting the last sentence in paragraph 14.53 as it is already covered in paragraph 14.55.

**Safeguarding minerals infrastructure**

Q15.5. Are the ancillary minerals infrastructure listed in Table 14 (and shown on the Policies Map) and requirements of policy 62 part A.7 justified, and will they be effective in safeguarding facilities for handling, processing and transporting minerals and substitute, recycled and secondary aggregates, and the manufacture of concrete and concrete products\(^23\)?

29. Document ‘SDEB 34 Mineral Safeguarding Areas’ contains the justification for Doncaster’s ancillary minerals infrastructure. The evidence was prepared in line with best practice and guidance, as noted in response 15.4. Representations were sought from mineral operators and these have been assessed and identified on the Local Plan Policies Map. Policy 62 part A.7 safeguards ancillary minerals infrastructure as required by NPPF paragraph 204e.

30. With regard to effectiveness, please refer to paragraph 5 in response 15.1.

**Minerals development requirements**

Q15.6. Are the requirements for minerals development set out in policy 63 justified and consistent with national policy, and will they be effective in ensuring that permitted and proposed operations do not have unacceptable adverse impacts on the natural and historic environment or human health, taking into account the cumulative effects of multiple impacts from individual sites and/or a number of sites in a locality\(^24\)?

31. The Council is confident that policy 63 is justified in accordance with national policy and guidance. The Local Plan is also not required to repeat national policy and guidance, which is quite comprehensive.

32. NPPF paragraph 205b states mineral planning authorities should ensure there are no unacceptable adverse impacts when determining mineral planning applications and NPPF 205c directs applicants to the Planning Practice Guidance. The PPG\(^25\) is very clear in the guidance requirements for assessing environmental impacts from minerals extraction. PPG paragraphs 011 to 33 cover environmental statements and impact assessments, the relationship between the regulatory regimes, the environmental issues to be addressed by the Minerals Planning Authority the issues for other regulatory regimes to address, minimising the impact of development on properties, impacts from building stone quarries,

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\(^{23}\) NPPF 204(e).

\(^{24}\) NPPF 204(f).

\(^{25}\) Paragraphs 011 Reference ID: 27-011-20140306 to 033 Reference ID: 27-033-20140306 (revision date 06/03/2014)
cumulative impacts, separation distances (buffers), noise emissions (impacts and standards), dust emission studies and mitigation and slope stability.

33. Borrow pits and incidental extraction are mineral extraction, but are not generally defined in terms of the quantity of the mineral worked or the timescale, as such local conditions dictate additional policy and direction for clarity. Borrow pits are temporary mineral workings located adjacent to a major construction site and used to supply a specific project. They can be an appropriate way of providing locally sourced material for major construction projects without the need for additional transportation. However, the policy is clear that recycled/reclaimed waste material should always be considered in the first instance. Incidental mineral extraction involves removal of mineral as a secondary part of ‘non-mineral’ development (such as the creation of lagoons or fishing ponds). Incidental extraction promotes the sustainable use of minerals that may otherwise be lost or sterilised and will only be considered where there is a proven need for the mineral. The policy will be effective in ensuring at a local level that reclaimed or recycled material is considered in the first instance, a proven need for the mineral is identified and the extraction is short term and well related to the construction project, and appropriate restoration can be achieved. With regard to effectiveness, please also refer to paragraph 5 in response 15. 1.

Reclamation of minerals sites

Q15.7. Are the requirements for the reclamation of mineral sites set out in policy 64 justified and consistent with national policy, and will they be effective in ensuring that worked land is reclaimed at the earliest opportunity, taking account of aviation safety, and that high quality restoration and aftercare of mineral sites takes place?

34. The Council is confident that policy 64 is justified and consistent with NPPF paragraph 204h. Applications containing information on the phased sequence of extraction, restoration, reclamation, and implementation of the planned aftercare with a mineral proposal will ensure the worked land is reclaimed within the timescales of the application. The policy is designed to ensure restoration proposals maintain or enhance the quality of the land providing long term community and environmental benefit and achieve a net gain in biodiversity in line with Local Plan Policies 30 and 31. If the Inspector would like the Council to add an additional sentence at the end of paragraph 14.66 to say ‘Mineral’s operators should also ensure the land is reclaimed at the earliest opportunity’, this will ensure operators are aware of their obligations in line with PPG. PPG Paragraphs 036 to 045 deal with restoration and aftercare of mineral sites and Development Management Officers will use these to help determine applications.

26 NPPF 204(h).
27 PPG Paragraphs 036 Reference ID: 27-036-20140306 to 045 Reference ID: 27-045-20140306
35. With regard to aviation safety\textsuperscript{23} the Local Plan is not required to repeat policy. The policy for aviation safety and the 13km bird strike hazard area is contained in Policy 7: Doncaster Sheffield Airport and Business Park (Strategic Policy), paragraph J.2\textsuperscript{28}, ‘13 km radius bird strike hazard area for development proposals likely to attract birds’. The buffer is shown on the Local Plan Policies Map and the digital planning application constraints layer. The airport is automatically consulted on development proposals within the 13km buffer. Would the Inspector like me to add a reference to policy 7 for clarity? If so, I can propose to add a sentence in the paragraph 14.67\ldots ‘\textbf{Minerals restoration proposals involving water bodies within the 13km bird strike hazard area will be subject to consultation with the airport in line with policy 7, L.1 see page xx\ldots}’

36. In terms of justification and effectiveness, the mineral policies have been developed in line with national policies and guidelines. Monitoring will determine the effectiveness of the policies in the Local Plan, especially in terms of benefitting biodiversity, climate change mitigation, the green infrastructure network, informal recreation, local agriculture land and/or geodiversity.

\textit{Building stone}

\begin{quote}
Q15.8. Will the support expressed in the opening sentence of policy 62 and the approach described in paragraph 14.51 and 14.59 to the production of building stone be effective?
\end{quote}

37. A Minerals Planning Authority is required to meet the demand for small scale extraction of building stone\textsuperscript{29} needed for heritage assets, should the need arise. Given that, most building stone quarries\textsuperscript{30} are small scale or extract at a lower rate (compared to other forms of mineral extraction). The Council believes the most effective way to identify and safeguard these important assets is using policy 26 and identifying them on the local plan as safeguarded building stone areas. Applications for small building stone sites will be determined on their merits, using national policy, guidance and policies within the Local Plan.

38. The British Geological Survey and Historic England (formerly English Heritage) collaborated on \textbf{The Strategic Stone Study}, to identify significant building stone sites in each county across England. The work specifically identifies stone matches for conservation projects. Building Stone sites are evidenced in SDEB34 Mineral Safeguarding Areas and a map from the ‘Strategic Stone Study’ database is contained in appendix two of evidence base document and identifies a number of quarry sites within the Doncaster area.

39. In Doncaster, building stone (dimension stone) is produced as a by-product of the aggregate industry, with one site (Hazel Lane Quarry)

\textsuperscript{28} Note. Policy 7, J.2. is proposed to become Policy 7, L.1. see DMBC8 Council Response to Further Preliminary Questions (4\textsuperscript{th} June)

\textsuperscript{29} NPPF paragraph 205f

\textsuperscript{30} PPG paragraph 016 Reference ID: 27-016-20140306

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producing both dimension stone on a fairly small scale alongside aggregate and another site (Cadeby Quarry) solely producing dimension stone on a larger scale, but with extant permission for aggregate. The remaining site (Park Nook Quarry) has only ever been worked by hand and is also a Local Geological Site. This site could well be important for heritage restoration projects.

40. The Council is confident that identifying the building stone safeguarded areas on the Policies Map, acknowledges their importance in the opening sentence of Local Plan policy 62. Subsequent paragraphs 14.51 (page 171) and 14.59 (page 173) makes and appropriate positive supportive reference for small scale building stone quarries and also meets national policy requirements.

**Energy minerals**

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<tr>
<th>Q15. 9. Is policy 65 consistent with national policy(^31), and will it be effective in planning positively for on-shore oil and gas exploration and extraction?</th>
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41. The Local Plan is not required to repeat national policy and guidance and the Planning Practice Guidance for Hydrocarbons\(^32\) provides comprehensive detail on the planning application process, development management procedures, environmental impact assessment and determining a planning application. The policy is short but effective in pointing applicants toward national policy and guidance and local plan policies with regard to determining applications for energy minerals.

42. As required by national policy, Policy 63 acknowledges the three different phases of the development process, including exploration, appraisal and development. For each discrete phase, the relevant (positively prepared) policies in the Local Plan will be used to consider an application, alongside national policy and guidance. The Local Plan includes policies on the economy, environment and social needs, which will allow for a balanced judgment on all hydrocarbon applications prior to any decisions being made.

43. By identifying the Petroleum Exploration Development Licences (PEDLs) granted by the Oil and Gas Authority the Local Plan has identified where hydrocarbon extraction can take place in areas licenced under the Petroleum Act 1998 (Petroleum Licence). In line with national policy the Local Plan:

- identifies petroleum licences on the ‘Policies Map’,
- provides criteria-based policies for each of the exploration, appraisal and production phases of hydrocarbon extraction should setting out clear guidance and criteria for the respective policy
- identifies permitted hydrocarbon sites and gas storage areas

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\(^{31}\) NPPF 209.

\(^{32}\) [https://www.gov.uk/guidance/minerals#planning-for-hydrocarbon-extraction](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/minerals#planning-for-hydrocarbon-extraction) Paragraphs 091 Reference ID: 27-091-20140306 to 127 Reference ID: 27-127-20140306
44. In terms of positive planning and effectiveness, policy 65 directs applicants to the national policy, guidance (which is positively prepared) and relevant policies within the Local Plan. Monitoring will be used to determine the effectiveness of all policies within the Local Plan (see Chapter 15). The Council acknowledges in the Plan that situations and circumstances change and commits to regular monitoring to determine effectiveness. An Annual Monitoring Report will track the progress of the Local Plan to determine the effectiveness in the document to meet with the overall plan objectives and implementation of policies.

3.7 The survey sought information to subdivide permitted reserves of sand and gravel into sand suitable for concreting, other sand and total gravel. The figures are set out in Table 6. The returns show more detail than provided in the 2005 survey, with less of the total reported as undifferentiated sand and gravel. However, a significant proportion of the North Yorkshire total is undifferentiated. The figures confirm previous indications that only a small proportion of permitted reserves in Doncaster are suitable for use as concreting aggregate. They also confirm the low level of permitted reserves in the single operating site in Leeds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TABLE 6 – PERMITTED RESERVES OF SAND AND GRAVEL FOR AGGREGATE USE AT 31.12.09 (thousand tonnes)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sand Suitable for Concreting</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>North Yorkshire</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doncaster (South Yorkshire)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leeds (W Yorkshire)</td>
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<td>East Riding and North Lincolnshire</td>
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^A Includes undifferentiated sand

ANNUAL REPORT 2009/AGGREGATES MONITORING 2009

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