

8 July 2008

John Wright
Leicestershire County Council
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicester, LE3 8RJ



Our Ref: C18/6282



Dear Mr. Wright

**LEICESTERSHIRE MINERALS DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CORE
STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICIES
LEICESTERSHIRE AND LEICESTER WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
CORE STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICIES**

Thank you for consulting the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE).

Unfortunately, due to limited resources, we are unable to comment on this document. However we would like to make some general comments which you should consider.

1. Design is now well established in planning policy at national and regional levels, and LDFs offer an opportunity to secure high-quality development, of the right type, in the right place, at the right time.
2. Robust design policies should be included within all LDF documents and the Community Strategy, embedding design as a priority from strategic frameworks to site-specific scales.
3. To take aspiration to implementation, local planning authorities' officers and members should champion good design.
4. Treat design as a cross-cutting issue – consider how other policy areas relate to urban design, open space management, architectural quality, roads and highways, social infrastructure and the public realm.
5. Design should reflect understanding of local context, character and aspirations.

6. You should include adequate wording or 'hooks' within your policies that enable you to develop and use other design tools and mechanisms, such as design guides, site briefs, and design codes.

You might also find the following CABE Guidance helpful.

- *"Making design policy work: How to deliver good design through your local development framework"*
- *"Protecting Design Quality in Planning"*
- *"Design at a glance: A quick reference wall chart guide to national design policy",*



These, and other publications, are available from our website www.cabe.org.uk

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Burgess', written in a cursive style.

Sarah Burgess

Senior Planning Advisor