

### **Topic Note – Minerals Procedures and Conformity**

1. This statement has been prepared to inform the Independent Examination for the submitted Core Strategy and Development Control Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) of the Leicestershire Minerals Development Framework.
2. This Statement is the Council's topic note on procedural and conformity matters.

### **Accordance with the respective Local Development Schemes**

3. The most recent and currently adopted local development scheme of the County Council (MIN 9) became effective on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2007. The scheme set a revised timetable for the production of the Minerals Core Strategy and Development Control Policies document. The submitted document accords with the title, role & content, geographic area and partner authorities as stated on page 15 of the scheme. Document production as laid out in the April 2007 Development Scheme has been met. Consultation on the preferred options was scheduled to begin between August-October 2006, a further consultation between October-November 2007 and the submission consultation between June-July 2008. The actual preferred options consultation took place between 25<sup>th</sup> August 2006 to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2006, the further consultation between 19<sup>th</sup> October 2007 and 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007 and the submission consultation between 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008 and 4<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

### **Compliance with the respective Statements of Community Involvement**

4. The County Council's Statement of Community Involvement (MIN 5) was adopted on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2007. Consultation was undertaken at the Issues and Options, Preferred Options and Submission stages in accordance with the Statement in terms of what the community should be involved in, who should be involved, how the community should be involved and the timing of when they should be involved. This includes consulting the district and borough councils within Leicestershire and all adjoining County and Unitary authorities which were omitted as listed consultees from the Pre-Submission Consultation Statement (MIN 3).

## Regard to the Community Strategies

5. Within Leicestershire's Sustainable Community Strategy (Min 11) there are three outcomes to which the Minerals Core Strategy has had regard: a reduction in the County's contribution to climate change; production of less waste and a reduced proportion which goes to landfill; & an enhanced accessible natural environment with improved protection (particularly sub outcome 4.4.2 which relates to an adequate and steady supply of minerals). These outcomes have been captured in minerals development objectives one, two, four, six, seven and eight and fed into many of the policies.

The two tier system in Leicestershire means that there are also seven district/borough Community Strategies produced within the framework area to which the Minerals Core Strategy has had to have regard. Common to the Charnwood, Harborough, Melton and North West Leicestershire Community Strategies is their desire to reduce their impact on climate change/reduce their carbon footprint. Again, objectives two, four and six and policies within the Core Strategy have taken accord of these aims.

Other themes and objectives that have come out of the borough and district Community Strategies (MIN 12-18) are to protect and enhance rural character (Melton, MIN 17), protect and enhance wildlife (Hinckley. MIN 14), continue to develop the coverage and role of the National Forest (NW Leics, MIN 15), reduce environmental pollution (Oadby & Wigston, MIN 18), reduce the risk of flooding (Charnwood, MIN 13), and to protect special and distinctive qualities of all landscapes and to pay special attention to impacts upon Charnwood Forest (Charnwood). In general, these are reflected in the minerals objectives but particularly by individual policies within the Core Strategy, such as Policy CS14 on the National Forest, Policy CS13 on Charnwood Forest, Policy DC5 on Countryside, Policy CS11 on Environmental Protection, Policy CS12 on Strategic River Corridors and Policy DC11 on the Water Environment.

