

# Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan

Statement of Common Ground

– working draft

August 2019

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This working draft statement has been prepared by Nottinghamshire County Council in discussion with each of the bodies and organisations listed throughout. This is an ongoing process and further changes may be made in consultation with these parties prior to the submission of the Minerals Local Plan.



# Introduction

This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been developed in order to address strategic minerals planning matters between Nottinghamshire County Council and the adjoining Minerals Planning Authorities and the Nottinghamshire Borough and District Councils. As part of the development of the new Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan. The document will inform the inspector of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan about areas of agreements (and or areas of disagreement) between the different authorities

Given the strategic nature and movement of minerals across county boundaries the statement includes discussions with adjoining Minerals Planning Authorities. Local District and Borough Councils within Nottinghamshire are also included to address local need for minerals. The authorities included in the process are set out below:

Adjoining Minerals Planning Authorities:

- Derbyshire County Council
- Leicestershire County Council
- Lincolnshire County Council
- North Lincolnshire Council
- Nottingham City Council
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and Doncaster Council

# District/ Borough Councils:

- Ashfield District Council
- Bassetlaw District Council
- Broxtowe Borough Council
- Gedling Borough Council
- Mansfield District Council
- Newark and Sherwood District Council
- Rushcliffe Borough Council

Other strategic bodies who are signatories to this statement are the East Midlands Aggregates Working Party and the Local Economic Partnership for Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (D2N2). In some cases, infrastructure providers may also be involved but no strategic infrastructure issues have been identified during the preparation of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan.

It is important to note that the purpose of the Statement of Common ground is to document the level of agreement or otherwise between relevant policy-making bodies on strategic cross boundary planning issues. As such, Neighbourhood Planning bodies, local communities and members of the public are not bound by the duty to co-operate or required to be involved in a statement of common ground, but this does not affect their ability to engage with the consultation process.

Plan 1 Area covered by the Statement of common ground



# Overview of the plan area

The administrative county of Nottinghamshire (excluding Nottingham City) covers a total area of 2,085 square kilometres (805 square miles) and has a population of approximately 800,000. Nottinghamshire County Council is the statutory Mineral Planning Authority (MPA) responsible for all minerals planning matters within the county, including the preparation of an up to date Plan. The majority of other planning functions are carried out by the seven district and borough councils. Although located within the geographic area of Nottinghamshire, Nottingham City is a unitary authority and is preparing separate minerals policies for its administrative area as part of its emerging Local Plan.

The entire county, along with neighbouring Derbyshire and Derby City, are covered by the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership which plays a central role in deciding local economic priorities and driving economic growth and job creation.

Nottinghamshire is rich in minerals and most widely known for its coal mining industry which has had a major impact on the social and economic development and environment of many parts of the county. There are no longer any active collieries, but the legacy of the coal industry is still very evident. The most visible reminders are the large spoil tips, many of which have been restored but some still present reclamation issues. Most former colliery sites have now been redeveloped to provide new employment opportunities for communities that were hit hard with the widespread closure of collieries.

Today, sand and gravel is the biggest extractive industry in the county. Most quarries work the river deposits found in the Trent and Idle valleys, although Sherwood Sandstone is also exploited. This activity has transformed large areas of the Trent and Idle Valleys into wetlands and in doing so has changed the landscape character of the area. Some former workings are now used for sports and recreation and others have become important wildlife habitats.

Gypsum is another major minerals industry in Nottinghamshire, and has been extensively mined in the south of the county and quarried between Newark and Kilvington. The associated plasterboard and plaster works that these mineral operations support are important local employers although few are directly employed in the extractive process itself.

Other minerals worked are brick clay, silica sand, building stone, aggregate limestone, and oil. Some of these minerals also support locally important associated industries such as brickworks.

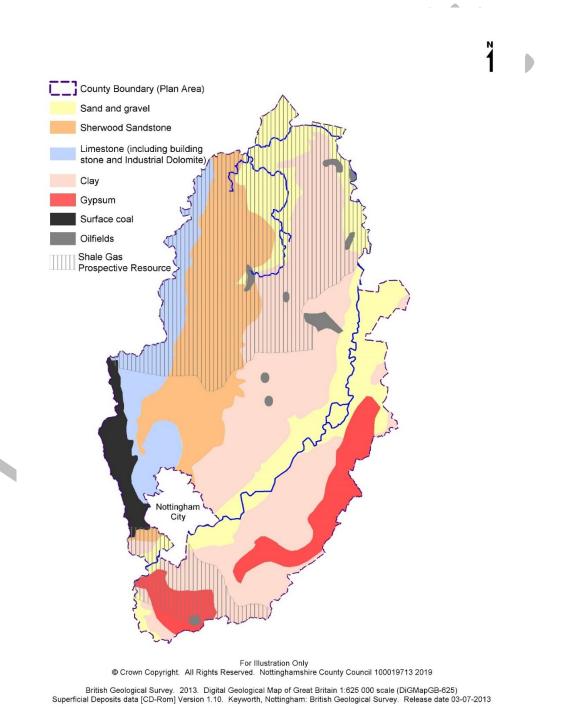
Building stone was worked much more extensively in the past and has contributed towards the traditional character of many villages and historic buildings. Today extraction is limited to just one small quarry.

Nottinghamshire has limited hard rock resources and has one permitted limestone quarry which is currently mothballed. Nottinghamshire imports significant quantities of hard rock to meet local demand.

Nottinghamshire has other potential mineral resources that could be exploited in future. This includes industrial dolomite found in a small area in the north west of the county and potential shale gas resources which are thought to exist in the north and the south of the county.

Nottinghamshire is part of the East Midlands region which, according to the 2014 Aggregates Minerals Survey for England and Wales, is the largest aggregate mineral producing area in England. This is primarily the result of the significant hard rock and sand and gravel reserves.

Plan 2 Nottinghamshire's mineral resources



# **Key strategic matters for the Minerals Local Plan**

As the Minerals Planning Authority, Nottinghamshire County Council has a statutory duty to prepare and maintain an up to date Minerals Local Plan that covers the Nottinghamshire County Council area.

The new MLP will identify expected future demand for minerals, site specific allocations to meet identified demand and provide a steady and adequate supply of minerals over the plan period and planning policies against which all proposals for new minerals development will be assessed over the plan period to 2036.

Nottinghamshire has historically been a significant producer of sand and gravel in the East Midlands, most of which comes from the Trent and Idle Valleys. A large proportion of this is exported to markets outside of Nottinghamshire particularly in south Yorkshire. This river or 'alluvial' mineral is mainly used in the production of concrete. Building and asphalting sand is produced from the Sherwood Sandstone resource but in much smaller quantities. Nottinghamshire's limestone production is relatively small, accounting for just 0.1% of the regional output, reflecting the County's limited resource of this mineral.

A range of other important minerals are worked in Nottinghamshire including silica sand, clay gypsum and oil however they don't raise any significant issues over the plan period. The potential for Shale gas extraction In Nottinghamshire is a high-profile issue with local communities but no strategic cross-boundary planning issues have been identified.

# Aggregates mineral provision

Aggregates make a significant contribution to the construction industry, accounting for around 90% of the materials used. In England alone, nearly a quarter of a billion tonnes are consumed every year.

The National Planning Policy Framework requires Minerals Planning Authorities to plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates through its local plan. Provision should be based on a rolling average of 10 years sales data and other relevant local information as set out in its Local Aggregates Assessment. The Minerals Local Plan identifies expected future demand based on the 2007-2016 10 - year average as the baseline.

Table 1

Mineral	Estimated demand 2018-2036 (19 years) (million tonnes)	Shortfall over the plan period (million tonnes)
Sand and gravel	32.3	14.8
Sherwood	7.03	3.85
Sandstone		
Crushed rock	0.09	1

Adequate site-specific allocations have been identified in the emerging MLP to meet the identified shortfalls identified in table 1.

# Geographical spread of sites going forward

Minerals can only be worked where they are found however the proximity to major markets can also influence the desirability of the mineral

The emerging MLP seeks to provide a geographical spread of sites across the county to minimise transport distances to the main markets. This is particularly in relation to sand and gravel.

# Minerals safeguarding

The National Planning Policy Framework requires that known locations of specific minerals be safeguarded from needless sterilisation by non-minerals development (such as built development) and that where it is necessary for non-minerals development to take place, there should be prior extraction of the mineral where practicable and environmentally feasible.

The Minerals Safeguarding Areas (MSA) identify the mineral resources which are worthy of safeguarding and the Minerals Consultation Area (MCA) identify the areas within Nottinghamshire where the District and Borough authorities are required to consult the Mineral Planning Authority over non-minerals development. The NPPF encourages the prior extraction of minerals before alternative uses are permitted. In Nottinghamshire the safeguarding and consultation areas are identical (with the exception of Colwick Wharf) and as such one map has been produced and is included on the Minerals Policies Map.

# **Discussions with adjoining Minerals Planning Authorities**

Nottinghamshire is bounded by five other Minerals Planning Authorities all of which have different issues either as mineral providers or as users of mineral however all Minerals Planning Authorities have a common aim in they are all required by the NPPF to provide a steady and adequate supply of minerals over their plan periods. The movements of minerals/ interactions between Nottinghamshire and each MPA are set out below.



# **Derbyshire County Council**

# Overview

A range of mineral resources are found in Derbyshire which includes crushed rock including limestone and sandstone / gritstone, sand and gravel and Sherwood Sandstone. Other mineral resources found in the county include clay, industrial dolomite, building stone, shallow coal and oil and gas.

#### Crushed rock

Derbyshire, along with the Peak District, is a major producer of crushed rock and supplies a wide number of markets across the country. As set out in the 2018 Local Aggregates Assessment (2017 data), permitted reserves of aggregate crushed rock stand at 9.8 million tonnes which is equivalent to an 80-year landbank.

Nottinghamshire's crushed rock resource is relatively limited with the only permitted quarry at Nether Langwith currently inactive. The Nottinghamshire LAA sets out the last 10 years production figures which have been zero since 2010.

As a result of the limited reserves of crushed rock in Nottinghamshire, up to 30% of Nottinghamshire's requirements are currently imported from Derbyshire (2014 Aggregate Minerals Survey for England and Wales).

# Sand and gravel

Sand and gravel has historically been extracted along the River Trent Valley in both Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. As a result, some sand and gravel moves between the two administrative areas. Using the East Midlands Aggregate Working Party 2014 full survey data, exports from Nottinghamshire to Derbyshire were 87,000 tonnes (around 4.5% of total output). Up to 10,000 tonnes was imported from Derbyshire into Nottinghamshire (around 1% of total output). Cross boundary movements are likely to continue in the future.

#### Clay

Clay reserves at Kirton Clay pit in Nottinghamshire remain adequate to supply demand for clay from the adjacent brick works beyond the plan period. However, a relatively small but important amount of brick clay is imported from Waingroves clay pit in Derbyshire to Kirton brick works for blending purposes. Waingroves clay pit has a 46-year landbank which is well beyond the life of the minerals local plan.

#### Industrial dolomite

Industrial dolomite is an industrial grade limestone that is mainly used in the iron and steel industry. The resource in the UK is rare and locally is only found in parts of the Magnesian Limestone which is mainly worked for aggregate grade material. No industrial dolomite is currently worked in Nottinghamshire, however reserves exist in a small area of the county, close to the existing dolomite works just over the county boundary in Derbyshire. It is located close to Creswell Crags, a SSSI, SAM and potential World Heritage Site.

#### Shallow coal reserves

Shallow coal reserves run along the boundary between Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. Although there are no active or proposed surface mines in this area

# Minerals safeguarding

A range of minerals lie on the boundary between the two authorities including Industrial dolomite and shallow coal reserves. Both authorities have identified reserves which are safeguarded in their respective areas.

#### Matters agreed

- 1. Derbyshire County Council has confirmed that it can continue to supply crushed rock to meet wider demand in Nottinghamshire over the life of the plan to 2036.
- 2. It has been agreed that the approach to sand and gravel provision in Nottinghamshire is adequate to provide a steady and adequate supply over the plan period.
- 3. It has been confirmed that a small but important supply of blending clay from Waingroves clay pit in Derbyshire is adequate to meet this demand from Kirton Bick works over the plan period to 2036. Both authorities have agreed to monitor the need for this material over the life of the plan.
- 4. Both authorities agree to continued co-operation and joint working regarding the provision of industrial dolomite in the Whitwell/ Creswell area and where necessary identify supplies of industrial dolomite to ensure supply is maintained in the future
- 5. Minerals safeguarding both authorities have agreed to continue to co-operate on any cross boundary safeguarding issues that arise during the plan period.
- 6. Both Authorities have agreed that wherever practical, they will work together to ensure landscape scale benefits can be gained from the restoration of worked out quarries along the Trent Valley close to the Nottinghamshire / Derbyshire border.

# **Outstanding matters**

No outstanding matters have been raised by either Authority

#### Ongoing co-operation

Minerals provision will be monitored through both authorities LAAs and where necessary regular meetings will be held between the authorities.

Both parties are members of the East Midlands Aggregates Working Party.

# Evidence base

Nottinghamshire Local Aggregates Assessment
Derbyshire Local Aggregates Assessment
Meetings between the two authorities



# **Leicestershire County Council**

# Overview

Mineral resources found in Leicestershire include crushed rock, sand and gravel, brick clay, fireclay, gypsum, coal and oil and gas.

# Sand and gravel

The movement of sand and gravel between the two authorities has traditionally been relatively low and focused on serving local, cross boundary markets.

Using the East Midlands Aggregate Working Party Full Survey in2014, 140,000 tonnes (7.4% of total output) was exported to Leicestershire from Nottinghamshire. Up to 103,000 tonnes was imported from Leicestershire to Nottinghamshire.

Much of the material exported from Nottinghamshire is likely to come from East Leake quarry in the south of county close to the Nottinghamshire / Leicestershire border. East Leake quarry is expected to remain active until 2026 - through a large part of the plan period. The Publication Version of the plan includes a site-specific allocation at Barton in Fabis. This is well placed to serve the Greater Nottingham market; however, it could potentially serve wider markets such as Leicestershire. The existing Langford Lowfields Quarry close to Newark and the additional Langford north allocation are expected to remain active over the whole of the plan period. Given its location close to the A1 it has the potential to serve a wide range of markets within Nottinghamshire and also wider markets such as Leicestershire.

Longer term, demand from Leicestershire is likely to increase due to limited future sand and gravel reserves, however it is unclear when this may happen, to what extent and the source of the mineral.

# Crushed rock

Leicestershire is a major producer of crushed rock and supplies a wide range of markets across the country. As set out in the 2018 Local Aggregates Assessment (2017 data), permitted reserves of aggregate crushed rock stand at 380 million tonnes which is equivalent to a 29-year landbank.

Nottinghamshire's crushed rock resource is relatively limited with the only permitted quarry at Nether Langwith currently inactive. The Nottinghamshire LAA sets out the last 10 years production figures which have been zero since 2010.

Due to limited reserves of crushed rock in Nottinghamshire, up to 885,000 tonnes (up to 70%) of Nottinghamshire's requirements, are imported from Leicestershire (2014 Aggregate Minerals Survey England and Wales).

# Gypsum

The Marblaegis gypsum mine and associated plasterboard works is located at East Leake in the south of the county and extends southwards to the Nottinghamshire / Leicestershire border. Permitted reserves are due to be worked out by 2026. The site operator, British Gypsum, has not sought any additional reserves within

Nottinghamshire during the Plan period time However the recently adopted Leicestershire Minerals and Waste Local Plan identifies a potential extension to the Marblaegis mine which could continue to supply the plasterboard works.

# Minerals safeguarding

Potential gypsum reserves cross the boundary between the two authorities and both authorities have identified reserves which are safeguarded in their respective areas.

#### Matters agreed

- 1. Nottinghamshire County Council and Leicestershire County Council as the Minerals Planning Authorities, both agree that maintaining a steady and adequate supply of minerals is important in maintaining economic growth. It has been acknowledged that Leicestershire's current sand and gravel landbank is very low at 2.3 years which may result in additional material being imported from elsewhere. Both authorities have agreed to monitor the flow of sand and gravel between the two authority areas in the future.
- 2. Leicestershire County Council has confirmed that it can continue to supply hard rock to meet wider demand in Nottinghamshire over the life of the plan to 2036.
- 3. Minerals safeguarding both authorities have agreed to continue to cooperate on any cross boundary safeguarding issues that arise during the plan period.

# Outstanding matters

No outstanding matters have been raised by either authority

#### Ongoing co operation

Minerals provision will be monitored through both authorities LAAs and where necessary regular meetings will be held between the authorities.

Both parties are members of the East Midlands Aggregates Working Party.

# Evidence base

Nottinghamshire LAA

Leicestershire LAA

Meetings between the two authorities

# **Lincolnshire County Council**

# Overview

A range of mineral resources are found in Lincolnshire which includes crushed rock, sand and gravel, chalk, building stone, oil and gas, silica sand and coal.

# Sand and gravel

Both authorities are significant sand and gravel providers. Historically Nottinghamshire was the biggest provider in the East Midlands, however in more recent times output from Nottinghamshire has fallen. As a result, Lincolnshire is now the largest producer in the East Midlands.

The River Trent flows along a large part of the Nottinghamshire / Lincolnshire border. Large reserves of alluvial sand and gravel therefore mean that quarries either side of the border supply a range of cross-boundary needs.

Based on the East Midlands Aggregate Working Party full survey 2014, Nottinghamshire exported 40,000 tonnes of sand and gravel (including Sherwood Sandstone) to Lincolnshire. Imports from Lincolnshire in 2014 (as set out in their latest Local Aggregates Assessment) totalled 298,700 tonnes.

#### Crushed rock.

Although crushed rock is extracted in Lincolnshire, the majority of Nottinghamshire's needs are met by Leicestershire and Derbyshire.

# Minerals safeguarding

Potential sand and gravel reserves cross the boundary between the two authorities. As a result, both authorities are acting to safeguard potential future reserves.

# Matters agreed

- Nottinghamshire County Council and Lincolnshire County Council as the Minerals Planning Authorities both agree that maintaining a steady and adequate supply of minerals is important in maintaining economic growth and have agreed to co-operate on the future provision of minerals between the two authority areas. Both MPAs are part of the East Midlands Aggregate Working Party.
- 2. Minerals safeguarding both authorities have agreed to continue to cooperate on any cross-boundary safeguarding issues that arise during the plan period.

# **Outstanding matters**

1. Lincolnshire County Council does not agree that the level of aggregate provision within the Nottinghamshire MLP is adequate. Using the 10-year average sales approach within the Nottinghamshire MLP is not appropriate as this does not accurately reflect the significant imbalance in imports/exports of

sand and gravel that has developed in recent years. Nottinghamshire has become a significant net-importer of sand and gravel from Lincolnshire partly due to operators in the Trent Valley focussing production in Lincolnshire during and after the recession. This has temporarily reduced production in Nottinghamshire and lowered the local demand figure. Using this deflated sales figure to forecast demand is fundamentally flawed as it fails to account for underlying demand in Nottinghamshire which has temporarily been met by imports form Lincolnshire. This puts undue pressure on mineral resources within Lincolnshire. A continued reliance on imports from Lincolnshire could lead to supply issues during the plan period if quarries in Lincolnshire are unable to meet any increased demand from shortfalls in Nottinghamshire. This is relevant local information that should be taken into account.

# Nottinghamshire's response:

Nottinghamshire County Council feel that the current evidence does not support the need to identify additional sand and gravel reserves at this point, however it accepts that demand could increase in the future. It is considered that the current movement of minerals is the product of commercial (economic) decisions made by the minerals industry that Mineral Planning Authorities cannot influence through the planning process.

The number of active quarries in Nottinghamshire have fallen in recent years as new quarries have not been promoted by the minerals industry to replace worked out quarries, despite significant sand and gravel resources remaining in the county. This has combined with a number of permitted quarries either remaining unworked or being mothballed by the operator.

Given the fact that significant sand and gravel resources remain in Nottinghamshire, it is expected that sand and gravel output and therefore movement of material will change in the future as the minerals industry works out existing quarries elsewhere and starts to focus on sand and gravel reserves in Nottinghamshire.

Aggregate movements data is only collected as a one-year snapshot every four years – although the length of time has varied due to delays in gathering data. A National survey of aggregate movements should have been undertaken in 2018 but has not yet taken place. As a result, the most recent national survey was undertaken in 2014 and prior to this 2009. Local sales data is available however it is not clear if this is comparable to the previous surveys. Given the limited nature of the data, it is not considered a robust set of data to generate an adequate evidence base to plan for higher provision.

The Local Plan system provides for regular monitoring and review through the Nottinghamshire Local Aggregates Assessment and Authority Monitoring Report. If there is evidence of increasing sales and a falling landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves in Nottinghamshire, an early review of the provision policy in the Minerals Local Plan is likely. Similarly, a lack of

permitted sand and gravel reserves would be a material consideration in determining any future planning applications, should this situation arise.

# Ongoing co-operation

It has been agreed that the situation will be monitored through the annual Nottinghamshire and Nottingham LAAs and where necessary regular meetings will be held between the authorities.

Both parties are part of the East Midlands Aggregate Working Party

# Evidence base

Nottinghamshire LAA

Lincolnshire LAA

Meetings between the two authorities

#### **North Lincolnshire Council**

# Overview

A range of minerals are found in north Lincolnshire including sand and gravel, limestone, chalk, silica sand, clay, iron stone and peat as well as hydrocarbon (oil and gas) deposits.

# Sand and gravel

Based on the East Midlands Aggregate Working Party full survey 2014, Nottinghamshire exported approximately 140,000 tonnes of sand and gravel (including Sherwood Sandstone) to the North Lincolnshire and East Riding area. No detailed sales breakdown is available to identify how much sand and gravel is supplied to North East Lincolnshire.

#### Crushed rock.

Although crushed rock is extracted in North Lincolnshire, the majority of Nottinghamshire's needs are met by Leicestershire and Derbyshire.

# Minerals safeguarding

Potential sand and gravel reserves cross the boundary between the two authorities, Nottinghamshire have identified reserves which are safeguarded.

# Matters agreed

- 1. Nottinghamshire County Council and North Lincolnshire Council as the Minerals Planning Authorities both agree that maintaining a steady and adequate supply of minerals is important in maintaining economic growth and have agreed to co-operate on the future provision of minerals between the two authority areas.
- 2. Minerals safeguarding both authorities have agreed to continue to cooperate on any cross boundary safeguarding issues that arise during the plan period.

# **Outstanding matters**

No outstanding matters have been identified by either authority

# Ongoing co-operation

It has been agreed that the situation will be monitored through the annual Nottinghamshire and Nottingham LAAs and where necessary regular meetings will be held between the authorities.

#### Evidence base

Nottinghamshire LAA, Humber LAA, meeting between the two authorities.

# **Nottingham City Council**

# Overview

Nottingham City Council as a unitary authority are the Minerals Planning Authority for the City Council administrative area with minerals policies contained in their local plan. Given the built-up nature of Nottingham city area, the availability of and ability to work minerals is very limited. As a result, built development taking place in the City Council area is reliant on imports from Nottinghamshire or further afield. Due to the lack of minerals worked in the city, a joint Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Local Aggregates Assessment is prepared.

Although most mineral resources have been sterilised by existing built development, an area of the flood plain along the River Trent in the south of the City Council administrative area contains potential sand and gravel reserves. The Minerals Local Plan contains an allocation for a sand and gravel quarry at Mill Hill near Barton in Fabis which adjoins the city boundary.

A planning application for a quarry at Mill Hill near Barton in Fabis has been submitted to both planning authorities. The application area covers the minerals local plan allocation area as well as an unallocated area within the City Council area.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure the best use of the mineral reserves. Areas safeguarded in the city include sand and gravel, brick clay, limestone, brick clay and fireclay.

# Nottingham City Local Plan

Nottingham City Council is currently in process of adopting a Local Plan Part Two, Land and Planning Policies (LAPP), that will form the Local Development Plan alongside the Nottingham Aligned Core Strategy adopted in 2014. The Aligned Core Strategy was jointly developed and adopted by Broxtowe, Gedling and Nottingham City Councils and contains a spatial vision and objectives for Greater Nottingham. The plan sought to provide sustainable growth and to make Nottingham one of Europe's top cities for science, technology, innovation and creativity. The LAPP document provides more detailed policies for development management and the allocations for housing and employment development to meet the identified need from the Aligned Core Strategy.

# Matters agreed

1. Both authorities agree that maintaining a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

- Both authorities agree that the average 10 years sales methodology is an appropriate approach to meeting future aggregates demand over the plan period to 2036. Given the historic flow of minerals from the County to the City, it is considered that demand from the city area has been taken into account when calculating future demand.
- 3. Both authorities will continue to prepare a joint Local Aggregates Assessment and co-operate on wider minerals issues in the future.

# **Outstanding matters**

Nottingham City Council consider that the proposed sand and gravel allocation at Mill Hill, Barton-in-Fabis should be fully justified and assessed against all alternatives to determine the most sustainable pattern of mineral extraction across the plan area over the plan period.

The County Council has undertaken a thorough assessment of all the potential sites put forward, including but not limited to, a strategic assessment of flood, transport, heritage, landscape and ecology matters. Mill Hill is considered suitable in principle for future minerals development and would contribute to the overall geographical spread of quarries to meet expected demand from the key market areas over the plan period to 2036. Further detailed assessment work would be undertaken at the planning application stage to determine the acceptability of any individual scheme.

# Ongoing co-operation

The Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Local Aggregates Assessment is completed on an annual basis.

Both authorities will continue to co-operate on wider minerals issues.

Nottingham City Council will be informed on the progress of the emerging Minerals Local Plan.

# Evidence base

Joint LAA between the two authorities

Meetings between the two authorities

#### Rotherham and Doncaster

# Overview

Historically, a significant amount of sand and gravel has been exported to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council and Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council from the Idle Valley in the north of Nottinghamshire.

Demand is expected to continue in the future as the Rotherham and Doncaster joint LAA identifies a current lack of permitted sand and gravel quarries. Historic returns and annual monitoring from the Yorkshire and Humber Aggregates Working Party state that only a small proportion of the remaining reserve in Doncaster is sharp sand and suitable for use as concreting aggregate. This is combined with a general lack of potential future sand and gravel reserves. It is currently expected that the landbank will fall below 7 years towards the end of the plan periods in 2031 and 2033 respectively.

Output from the Idle Valley has fallen steadily since 2006 as resource depletion is beginning to limit output. At present 5 quarries are active, with an output of approximately 500,000 tonnes. The most recent data from 2014 full survey states that approximately 411,000 tonnes were exported form Nottinghamshire.

A large permitted quarry at Sturton Le Steeple in North Nottinghamshire close to the South Yorkshire markets was granted planning permission in 2007 but has yet to be worked. This quarry has an expected life of around 20 years and could produce up to 500,000 tonnes per annum providing significant long-term reserves to supply north Nottinghamshire and Rotherham & Doncaster.

Forecast demand over the plan period takes account of historical demand from Rotherham and Doncaster. The emerging Minerals Local Plan identifies 4 extensions to existing quarries, two at Scrooby quarry, one at Misson quarry and an eastern extension to Besthorpe quarry. Although Besthorpe quarry is near Newark, existing routing agreements require sand and gravel to travel north to avoid the settlement of Collingham. As a result, the northern markets are the main location for mineral from this quarry.

# Minerals safeguarding

Potential sand and gravel reserves cross the boundary between the two authorities. As a result, both authorities are acting to safeguard potential future reserves.

# Matters agreed

 There is agreement between the three authorities that in the short to medium term, sand and gravel from Nottinghamshire is likely to continue to supply the south Yorkshire markets. In the longer term it has been noted that supply issues from Nottinghamshire may arise due to resource depletion in the Idle Valley.

- 2. There is agreement that the three authorities will continue to work together and monitor cross boundary flows of sand and gravel over the life of the plan.
- 3. Minerals safeguarding both authorities have agreed to continue to cooperate on any cross-boundary safeguarding issues that arise during the plan period.

# Outstanding matters

No outstanding matters have been identified between the two authorities

# Ongoing co-operation

It has been agreed that the situation will be monitored through the annual Nottinghamshire and Nottingham LAAs and where necessary regular meetings will be held between the authorities.

# Evidence base

Nottinghamshire and Nottingham LAA

Rotherham and Doncaster LAA

Aggregates Minerals Survey four yearly aggregates movement data (2009, 2005, 2001)

# **East Midlands Aggregate Working Party**

The East Midlands Aggregate Working Party (EMAWP) is made up of Minerals Planning Authorities from across the East Midlands and representatives from the minerals industry. Its role is to provide technical advice about supply and demand for aggregates and to undertake annual monitoring of aggregate production and levels of permitted reserves across the East Midlands. Nottinghamshire County Council attends the EMAWP meetings and also represents Nottingham City Council. Views from the EMAWP are sought on the draft Nottinghamshire and Nottingham annual Local Aggregates Assessment.

This Statement of Common Ground will be circulated and discussed at the EMAWP in advance at the next meeting in October 2019.

# Matters agreed

To be discussed at the October 2019 meeting

# Outstanding matters

To be discussed at the October 2019 meeting

# Ongoing co-operation

Nottinghamshire will continue to attend the EMWAP meetings to discuss issues related to aggregate provision in the East Midlands. All members of the EMAWP have been and will continue to be consulted as part of the development of the emerging minerals plan.

# **D2N2 - Local Economic Partnership**

D2N2 is the Local Economic Partnership covering Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. Its aims to create a more prosperous, better connected, and increasingly resilient and competitive economy and to support the creation of 55,000 new jobs across Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire by 2023.

# Matters agreed

The LEP agrees that minerals play an essential role in providing the raw materials needed in the construction industry to maintain the existing built environment and enable future development to take place. The LEP notes that the emerging minerals plan contains site specific allocations which aim to meet expected demand over the plan period. This approach will provide a level of certainty, that a steady and adequate supply of minerals will be provided.

# Ongoing co-operation

The LEP will continue to be consulted as part of the development of the emerging plan.

# **Discussions with Districts and Borough Councils in Nottinghamshire**

Nottinghamshire is made up of seven District or Borough Councils. As set out above a wide range of minerals are found across the county, however some areas will have greater concentrations of minerals than others and this will impact on the variety of issues that are present in each district/borough. The key issues for each of the districts / boroughs is set out below along with areas which the authorities have agreed common ground and those areas where issues remain.



#### Ashfield District Council

# Overview

Minerals resources found in the Ashfield District Council administrative area include silica sand, limestone, Sherwood Sandstone, coal and energy minerals (methane). At present there are two permitted quarries in the district. There are no allocations for new quarries or extensions to existing quarries identified in the minerals plan for the district.

#### Silica sand

One active silica sand quarry known as Two Oaks Farm is located near Kirkby. The quarry has an expected operational period into the 2040's well beyond the life of the new minerals plan.

#### Limestone

One permitted limestone quarry known as Nether Langwith is located near Nether Langwith Village. The quarry has permission until 2035, however the quarry has been mothballed since 2007.

# Hydrocarbons

Petroleum Exploration Licence Areas (PEDL) cover parts of the District. The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and give consent to drill under licence for oil and gas exploration activities, subject to the necessary drilling /development consents and planning permission.

One operational mine gas recovery scheme is located in the District near Kingsmill Hospital

The district is also covered by the shale gas prospective resource area as identified in the 'Carboniferous Bowland Shale gas study: geology and resource estimation' report published by the British Geological Survey / Department of Environment and Climate Change 2013.

No future site-specific proposals for hydrocarbon extraction in the district are included in the emerging minerals plan.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure the best use of the mineral reserves. Areas safeguarded in Ashfield include Sherwood Sandstone, limestone and coal.

#### Ashfield Development Plan

Ashfield is currently in the process of renewing its Local Plan following the withdrawal of the Emerging Local Plan (2016) in 2018. It is expected that a Consultation Draft Plan will be published in January 2020 and the plan formally adopted by July 2022. The new plan will cover the period from 2018 to 2037 and provide the strategy for

growth in Ashfield. Until a new plan is adopted, the 2002 Local Plan Review remains the adopted plan for Ashfield, which aims to balance the need for housing and employment with protecting and enhancing the quality of the environment.

#### Matters agreed

- The County Council and Borough Council both agree that a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity across Nottinghamshire. This includes the maintenance of the existing built environment and the availability of construction materials to enable future developments to take place.
- 2. The District Council remain concerned about the potential for shale gas extraction, however it is acknowledged that no site-specific proposals are identified in the emerging plan and that the hydrocarbons policy contained in the minerals plan is in line with national guidance.
- 3. The County Council and Borough Council both agree on the principle of minerals safeguarding to protect valuable mineral reserves from unsuitable development and need for prior extraction where possible.

# **Outstanding matters**

No issues have been raised between the two authorities

# Ongoing co-operation

The District Council will be informed on the progress of the emerging Minerals Local Plan.

The County Council will provide comments on planning applications relating to minerals safeguarding issues where necessary.

# Evidence base

Minerals Local Plan

#### **Bassetlaw District Council**

#### Overview

Mineral resources found in Bassetlaw District Council administrative area include sand and gravel, Sherwood Sandstone, Industrial dolomite and oil and gas. Three site specific allocations have been included in the emerging minerals plan are identified below.

# Sand and gravel

The Idle Valley to the north of Retford has been worked extensively for sand and gravel in the past. Reserves remain however they are much reduced. In order to maintain a geographic spread of sites across the county during the plan period, 2 extensions to Scrooby quarry have been allocated at Scrooby North quarry and Scrooby Thompson land.

#### **Sherwood Sandstone**

The existing permitted Scrooby Top quarry has adequate reserves until 2022. An extension to the existing quarry known as Scrooby North has been allocated in the plan which will run from 2022 beyond the plan period.

#### Limestone

An existing quarry at Nether Langwith has permission until 2035, however it remains mothballed at present.

#### Industrial dolomite

Industrial dolomite is an industrial grade limestone that is mainly used in the iron and steel industry. The resource in the UK is rare and locally is only found in parts of the Magnesian Limestone (which is mainly worked for aggregate grade material). No industrial dolomite is currently worked in Nottinghamshire, however reserves exist in a small area of the county near Holbeck, close to the existing dolomite works just over the county boundary in Derbyshire. It is located close to Creswell Crags, a SSSI, SAM and potential World Heritage Site. In the longer term this resource may increase in importance as existing reserves in Derbyshire are expected to be worked out by 2033.

# Oil and gas

Petroleum Exploration Licence Areas (PEDL) are present in the District. The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and give consent to drill under licence for oil and gas exploration activities, subject to the necessary drilling /development consents and planning permission.

Oil extraction has historically taken place in the district which has raised few issues.

Two planning applications for shale gas exploration in the district have been granted planning permission at Tinker Lane near Barnby Moor. The Tinker Lane exploration has been completed and is in the process of being decommissioned. The Misson

Springs permission remains active. No site-specific proposals for hydrocarbon extraction in the Borough are included in the emerging minerals plan.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure best use of those minerals reserves. Areas of the District fall within sand and gravel, Sherwood Sandstone and industrial dolomite safeguarding areas.

#### Bassetlaw Local Plan

Bassetlaw District Council is currently preparing a new Part 1: Strategic Plan which will replace the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan (adopted in 2011). A draft of the new plan was published in January 2019 which seeks to provide the districts strategy for growth until 2035. The draft plan strives for Bassetlaw to be a place where both rural and urban life prosper, with residents and visitors able to enjoy a valuable, attractive, diverse and accessible environment.

#### Matters agreed

The County Council and District Council both agree that a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity across Nottinghamshire. This includes the maintenance of the existing built environment and the availability of construction materials to enable future developments to take place.

The District Council remain concerned about the potential for shale gas extraction. Planning applications for shale gas exploration have been granted by the county council, however it is acknowledged that no site-specific proposals are identified in the emerging plan and that the hydrocarbons policy contained in the minerals plan is in line with national guidance.

The County Council and District Council both agree on the principle of minerals safeguarding to protect valuable mineral reserves from unsuitable development and enable prior extraction where possible.

# **Outstanding matters**

No outstanding issues have been raised by either authority

#### Ongoing co-operation

The District will be informed on the progress of the emerging Minerals Local Plan. The County Council will provide comments on planning applications relating to minerals safeguarding issues will be supplied where necessary.

#### Evidence base

Meetings

# **Broxtowe Borough Council**

# Overview

Mineral resources found in the Broxtowe Borough Council administrative area include sand and gravel and shallow coal reserves. However, there are currently no active quarries.

# Oil and gas

A Petroleum Exploration Licence Areas (PEDL) covers part of the Borough The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and give consent to drill under licence for oil and gas exploration activities, subject to the necessary drilling /development consents and planning permission.

No future site-specific proposals for hydrocarbon extraction in the Borough are included in the emerging minerals plan.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure best use of those minerals reserves. Areas of the Borough fall within sand and gravel and surface coal safeguarding areas.

#### **Broxtowe Local Plan**

Broxtowe Borough Council is currently in the process of adopting a new Local Plan Part Two, with the plan being examined by an inspector in December 2018. Once adopted, this will alongside the Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategy (adopted 2014) provide the strategy for growth until 2028. The Aligned Core Strategy was jointly developed and adopted by Broxtowe, Gedling and Nottingham City Councils and contains a spatial vision and objectives for Greater Nottingham. The plan sought to provide sustainable growth and to make Nottingham one of Europe's top cities for science, technology, innovation and creativity. The Local Plan Part 2 document provides more detailed policies for development management and non-strategic allocations for housing and employment development to meet the identified need from the Aligned Core Strategy.

# Matters agreed

The County Council and Borough Council both agree that a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity across Nottinghamshire. This includes the maintenance of the existing built environment and the availability of construction materials to enable future developments to take place.

It has been noted that no specific issues exist for minerals extraction in the borough. The Borough Council remains concerned about the potential for shale gas extraction, however it is acknowledged that no site-specific proposals are identified in the emerging plan and that the hydrocarbons policy contained in the minerals plan is in line with national guidance.

The County Council and Borough Council both agree on the principle of minerals safeguarding to protect valuable mineral reserves from unsuitable development and need for prior extraction where possible.

# **Outstanding matters**

No outstanding matters have been raised by either authority

# Ongoing co-operation

The Borough will be informed on the progress of the emerging Minerals Local Plan. The County Council will provide comments on planning applications relating to minerals safeguarding issues where necessary.

# Evidence base

Meetings

# **Gedling Borough Council**

# Overview

Minerals resources found in the Gedling Borough Council administrative area including clay, Sherwood Sandstone, limestone and sand and gravel. At present there are a number of active queries extracting a range of minerals.

# Clay

An existing permitted clay pit is located close to Arnold at Dorket Head and has an expected life until 2033. A brickworks operated by the same company is located adjacent to the clay pit. National guidance requires a 25-year landbank to be maintained at each brick works however the landbank for Dorket Head currently stands at around 14 years. The mineral operator has not promoted any new sites through the minerals plan process, however in the longer-term further reserves are likely to be required.

#### Sherwood Sandstone

Two permitted Sherwood Sandstone quarries are located in the borough. Bestwood II quarry located to the south of Ravenshead and has permitted reserves until 2029. A small northern extension has been allocated in the emerging minerals plan which would add an additional 6 years' worth of reserves. Burntstump quarry is located to the west of Calverton.

# Limestone (building stone)

Yellowstone quarry is located to the north of Linby and is the County's only source of building stone. The quarry has been inactive for a number of years and it is unclear when it may re-open.

#### Oil and gas

A Petroleum Exploration Licence Area (PEDL) covers a small part of the Borough and relates specifically to the Coal Mine Methane extraction scheme at the old Gedling Colliery. The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and give consent to drill under licence for oil and gas exploration activities, subject to the necessary drilling /development consents and planning permission.

The Borough is not covered by the shale gas prospective resource area as identified in the 'Carboniferous Bowland Shale gas study: geology and resource estimation' report published by the British Geological Survey / Department of Environment and Climate Change 2013. As a result, no future site-specific proposals for hydrocarbon extraction in the Borough are included in the emerging minerals plan.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure best use of those minerals reserves. Areas of the Borough fall within the clay, Sherwood Sandstone and sand and gravel safeguarding areas.

# Gedling Local Plan

Gedling Borough Council adopted its Local Planning Document Part 2 Local Plan in July 2018. Alongside the Greater Nottingham Aligned Core Strategy (2014) this forms the Gedling strategic policies for growth up until 2028. The Aligned Core Strategy was jointly developed and adopted by Broxtowe, Gedling and Nottingham City Councils and contains a spatial vision and objectives for Greater Nottingham. The Local Plan Part 2 document provides more detailed policies for development management and non-strategic allocations for housing and employment development to meet the identified need from the Aligned Core Strategy.

# Matters agreed

- The County Council and Borough Council both agree that a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity across Nottinghamshire. This includes the maintenance of the existing built environment and the availability of construction materials to enable future developments to take place.
- The County Council has confirmed that no additional clay reserves have been identified in the short to medium term, however in the long term it is understood that additional reserves are likely be needed as part of a future review of the plan.
- No specific issues have been raised regarding the continued provision of Sherwood Sandstone at Besthorpe II quarry. A northern extension to Bestwood II quarry has been allocated in the Minerals Local Plan however this will be worked and processed through the existing quarry at existing output rates.
- The County Council and Borough Council both agree on the principle of minerals safeguarding to protect valuable mineral reserves from unsuitable development, and the need for prior extraction where possible.

# Outstanding matters

No outstanding matters have been raised between the two authorities

# Ongoing co-operation

The Borough will be informed of the ongoing progress of the Minerals Local Plan. Comments on planning applications relating to minerals safeguarding issues will be supplied where necessary.

# Evidence base

Meetings between the two authorities

#### Mansfield District Council

# Overview

Mineral resources found in the Mansfield District Council administrative area include Sherwood Sandstone and limestone although at present there are no active quarries and no allocations identified in the emerging Minerals Local Plan.

# Oil and gas

Petroleum Exploration Licence Areas (PEDL) cover parts of the District. The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and allow a company to pursue a range of oil and /or gas exploration activities. Any development would be subject to the granting of planning permission from the Minerals Planning Authority along with the necessary licences from the other statutory bodies involved including the Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive.

Petroleum Exploration Licence Areas (PEDL) cover parts of the District. The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and give consent to drill under licence for oil and gas exploration activities, subject to the necessary drilling /development consents and planning permission.

Four operational mine gas recovery schemes are located in the district on old colliery sites.

The district is also covered by the shale gas prospective resource area as identified in the 'Carboniferous Bowland Shale gas study: geology and resource estimation' published by the British Geological Survey / Department of Environment and Climate Change 2013.

No future site-specific proposals for hydrocarbon extraction in the district are included in the emerging minerals plan.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure best use of those mineral reserves. Areas of the District fall within the Sherwood Sandstone and limestone safeguarding areas.

#### Mansfield Local Plan

Mansfield District Council is currently in process of adopting a new Local Plan, having submitted the publication draft for examination in December 2018. Once adopted, the new plan will replace the current Mansfield District Local Plan 1998 and provide the strategy for growth and development in Mansfield until 2033. It aims to transform Mansfield into a healthier, greener and more vibrant place to live, work and enjoy.

#### Matters agreed

The County Council and Borough Council both agree that a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity. This includes the maintenance of the existing built environment and the availability of construction materials to enable future developments to take place.

The County Council and Borough Council both agree on the principle of minerals safeguarding to protect valuable mineral reserves from unsuitable development, and to enable prior extraction where possible.

The District Council are concerned by the potential for shale gas extraction in the district however they acknowledge that any planning application for such development would be assessed against the polices contained in the minerals plan and in line with the requirements of the other statutory bodies involved in the licencing process.

# **Outstanding matters**

No outstanding issues have been identified.

# Ongoing co-operation

The Borough will be informed on the progress of the emerging Minerals Local Plan. The County Council will provide comments on planning applications relating to minerals safeguarding issues where necessary.

# Evidence base

Minerals Local Plan

Meetings between the two authorities

#### **Newark and Sherwood District Council**

# Overview

Mineral resources found in Newark and Sherwood District Council administrative area include sand and gravel, clay, gypsum and oil. Three extensions to existing quarries are allocated in the minerals plan are set out below.

# Sand and gravel

Given the location of the River Trent running through the district, there has been a long history of sand and gravel extraction in the area. Four sand and gravel quarries are currently active along the Trent Valley north of Newark including Langford Lowfields quarry, Besthorpe quarry, Girton quarry and Cromwell quarry.

In order to maintain a geographic spread of sites across the county during the plan period, extensions to Besthorpe quarry and Langford quarry have been allocated in the emerging plan. The northern extension to Langford Lowfields will maintain production at the quarry beyond the plan period and the eastern extension to Besthorpe quarry would maintain output until 2036.

# Clay

Clay reserves are found across a large part of the district with an active brick works and associated clay pit located at Kirton. The clay pit has permitted reserves until 2034. As a result no additional reserves have been allocated however reserves will be monitored through the plan period.

# Gypsum

High quality gypsum reserves are found to the south of Newark and are worked by surfaced mined methods at Bantycock quarry before being processed at the adjacent works. The existing quarry has permitted reserves adequate until 2023. A southern extension has been allocated in the emerging minerals plan which would provide reserves beyond the plan period.

# Oil and gas

Petroleum Exploration Licence Areas (PEDL) are present in the District. The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and give consent to drill under licence for oil and gas exploration activities, subject to the necessary drilling /development consents and planning permission. Oil extraction has historically taken place in the district which has raised few issues.

Two operational mine gas recovery schemes are located in the District on old colliery sites.

Part of the district is also covered by the shale gas prospective resource area as identified in the 'Carboniferous Bowland Shale gas study: geology and resource estimation' report published by the British Geological Survey / Department of Environment and Climate Change 2013.

No future site-specific proposals for hydrocarbon extraction in the Borough are included in the emerging minerals plan.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure best use of those minerals reserves. Areas of the Borough fall within sand and gravel, clay and gypsum safeguarding areas.

#### Newark Local Plan

Newark and Sherwood District Council have a Local Development Framework which consist of two documents: The Amended Core Strategy, which was adopted in March 2019, and the Allocations and Development Management Development Plan (adopted 2013). The Amended Core Strategy provides the strategy for the District for the next twenty years and policies to help deliver development. The Allocations and Development Management Development Plan provides more detailed development management policies and site allocations and designations for development. Overall, the documents strive to provide thriving, sustainable urban and rural communities.

# Matters agreed

The County Council and District Council both agree that a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity across Nottinghamshire. This includes the maintenance of the existing built environment and the availability of construction materials to enable future developments to take place.

The District Council remains concerned about the potential for shale gas extraction, however it is acknowledged that no site-specific proposals are identified in the emerging plan and that the hydrocarbons policy contained in the minerals plan is in line with national guidance.

The County Council and District Council both agree on the principle of minerals safeguarding to protect valuable mineral reserves from unsuitable development and need for prior extraction where possible.

# **Outstanding matters**

No outstanding matters have been raised by either authority

#### Ongoing co-operation

The District Council will be informed on the progress of the emerging Minerals Local Plan. The County Council will provide comments on planning applications relating to minerals safeguarding issues where necessary.

#### Evidence base

Meetings between the two authorities

# **Rushcliffe Borough Council**

# Overview

A range of minerals are found in the Rushcliffe Borough Council administrative area, including: sand and gravel, Gypsum, Desulphogypsum, oil and the potential for gas extraction.

# Sand and gravel

Given the location of the River Trent running through the borough, there has been a long history of sand and gravel extraction in this area. At present there are no active quarries in the Trent Valley although one active quarry is located at East Leake in the south of the borough. The East Leake quarry has an expected life until 2026.

In order to maintain a geographic spread of sites across the county during the plan period, the minerals plan has allocated a quarry at Mill Hill near Barton in Fabis. This allocation will ensure sand and gravel reserves are located close to the Greater Nottingham conurbation minimising transport distances.

# Gypsum

The Marbelegis mine and plasterboard works at East Leake is the main source of 'standard' grade gypsum in Nottinghamshire. Identified reserves in Nottinghamshire have been significantly worked, with the remaining permitted reserves expected to last until 2026. No further reserves have been identified in Nottinghamshire, however additional reserves have been identified in Leicestershire which would supply the works through the existing mine.

# Desulphogypsum

As a result of the Flue Gas Desulphurisation plant at Ratcliffe on Soar power station located in the borough, a large amount of synthetic gypsum is produced as a byproduct. The majority of the Desulphogypsum produced at the power station is supplied to the British Gypsum plasterboard works at East Leake. This synthetic form of gypsum is used to manufacture plaster board and plaster and has reduced the need to extract natural gypsum in the past. This has raised few issues in the past however the power station is expected to be decommissioned by 2025 which will bring to an end the production of this material.

# Oil and gas

Petroleum Exploration Licence Areas (PEDL) cover parts of the Borough. The licences are granted by the Oil and Gas Authority and give consent to drill under licence for oil and gas exploration activities, subject to the necessary drilling /development consents and planning permission. Oil extraction has historically taken place in the borough which has raised few issues.

The Borough is also covered by the shale gas prospective resource area as identified in the 'Carboniferous Bowland Shale gas study: geology and resource estimation' report published by the British Geological Survey / Department of Environment and Climate Change 2013.

No future site-specific proposals for hydrocarbon extraction in the Borough are included in the emerging minerals plan.

# Minerals safeguarding

Minerals safeguarding aims to protect valuable mineral resources from sterilisation or to ensure best use of those minerals reserves. Areas of the Borough fall within sand and gravel and gypsum safeguarding areas.

#### Rushcliffe Local Plan

Rushcliffe Borough Council has developed its Local Plan in two parts, with the Core Strategy adopted in December 2014 forming Part One that covers the strategic vision and strategy for the Borough to 2028. Part Two is the Land and Planning Policies document, which is yet to be adopted but had its examination hearings in November 2018. This provides the non-strategic allocations and several detailed development management policies for the district council until 2028. Both are striving to achieve the vision outlined in the Core Strategy which is to provide exceptional quality of life and continue to be a key sporting centre in the region.

# Matters agreed

The County Council and Borough Council both agree that a steady and adequate supply of minerals is an important element to ensuring future economic prosperity across Nottinghamshire. This includes the maintenance of the existing built environment and the availability of construction materials to enable future developments to take place.

It has been agreed that no specific issues for the extraction of Gypsum or Desulphogypsum have been identified during the plan period. The Borough Council remain concerned about the potential for shale gas extraction, however it is acknowledged that no site-specific proposals are identified in the emerging plan and that the hydrocarbons policy contained in the minerals plan is in line with national guidance.

The District Council are concerned by the potential for shale gas extraction in the district however they acknowledge that any planning application for such development would be assessed against the polices contained in the minerals plan and in line with the requirements of the other statutory bodies involved in the licencing process including the Oil and Gas Authority, Environment Agency and the Health and Safety Executive

The County Council and Borough Council both agree on the principle of minerals safeguarding to protect valuable mineral reserves from unsuitable development, and the need for prior extraction where possible.

#### **Outstanding matters**

Rushcliffe Borough Council accepts the need for a geographical spread of sites to meet the needs of the county and beyond, however the Borough Council is

concerned about the impacts on the environment and local communities and therefore considers that a detailed comparison of potential site allocations in the Nottingham area should be undertaken to clearly justify the site.

# Nottinghamshire's response:

Nottinghamshire County Council considers that the site allocations selected are in principle suitable for future minerals development. As part of the evidence gathering, a number of assessments documents have been undertaken including a Sustainability Appraisal and a site selection methodology. As a result of the evidence gathering the Mill Hill site is considered appropriate as it is close to the Nottingham market and, as part of the package of site allocations, will provide an appropriate amount of sand and gravel to meeting the overall sand and gravel shortfall over the plan period.

# Ongoing co-operation

The Borough will be informed on the progress of the emerging Minerals Local Plan. The County Council will provide comments on planning applications relating to minerals safeguarding issues will be supplied where necessary.

#### Evidence base

Meetings between both authorities

# **Governance Arrangements**

This draft statement has been prepared by Nottinghamshire County Council in discussion with each of the signatories. Further discussion will be carried out where appropriate before the statement is finalised. The draft statement will be published on the Council's website alongside the Minerals Local Plan Publication Version which is being consulted on over a six-week period between August and September 2019.

All signatories to this statement will be consulted on the Minerals Local Plan Publication Version directly and signing this statement does not prejudice the ability to make detailed representations (in support or objection) to the Minerals Local Plan Publication Version.

This Statement of Common Ground is an important supporting paper to the Minerals Local Plan and will be reported to the Communities and Places Committee to endorse.

# Timetable for Agreement, Review and Update

This Statement of Common Ground has been published in draft form for consultation alongside the Minerals Local Plan Publication Version. Comments are sought on the content of this Statement, in addition to agreement on the Matters identified. This Statement will be updated where necessary following consultation and re-published prior to Submission. This Statement will be reviewed and/or updated alongside the five-yearly review of the Minerals Local Plan or sooner if required.