

Policy 43

Id No Respondent

98 English Heritage

95 English Nature,

200 Environment Agency

163 Friends of the Earth North East

329 Friends of the Earth South Tyneside

Policy 43

Para 3.143 - Support should be given to the occasional small scale, time limited extraction of minerals essential to the proper repair of heritage assets in the region. Other regions have been willing to embrace this concept in such a way that there has been no detrimental effect on either nature conservation or local amenity

Propose amend criterion c) to read:

"ensure the effective environmental management of mineral extraction and processing sites, quality restoration and aftercare, and appropriate beneficial after uses through a strategic approach integrated with wider green infrastructure, biodiversity and geodiversity planning processes where appropriate"

Reason: to link the overall minerals strategy policy with green infrastructure planning and the potential to deliver biodiversity or geodiversity through mineral restoration proposals etc

Propose insert new criterion g):

"ensure the protection and enhancement of important biodiversity and geodiversity resources, landscapes and historic environmental assets"

Reason: to reflect the importance of protecting and enhancing important biodiversity and geodiversity resources, landscapes and historic environmental assets as an integral part of the overall minerals strategy and for consistency with other development policies

3.143

We support the need to balance mineral requirements and economic benefit with the impacts on the environment and communities.

Friends of the Earth supports point b) in this policy on ensuring 'the prudent use of mineral resources in line with sustainable development objectives.' Given that sustainable development provides the overarching framework for all RSS policies, and with the potential for mineral extraction to cause significant environmental harm, this sentence needs to be elevated to become the policy's headline statement from which the detailed policy objectives flow. We recommend that the first sentence is amended to read as follows:

'Development Plans and Local Development Frameworks must ensure that aggregate minerals production is consistent with sustainable development principles and is set within the environmental limits of the region. Forecasting and provision must be based on a 'plan, monitor and manage' approach rather than 'predict and provide.' Specifically, they will:.....'

Given the emphasis in 3.144, 3.145 and in policy 44 on increasing the use of alternative and recycled materials, we recommend that an additional bullet point be added to policy 43 to reflect this:

- promote the use of alternative (secondary and recycled) materials wherever possible, and aim to progressively increase the total proportion of materials coming from sustainable sources.

We would also like to see the bullet points in 3.144 on the need to 'protect the environment and local amenity' and 'minimise the adverse impacts of the transport of minerals and minerals products' incorporated into policy 43 as key parts of the overall minerals strategy.

South Tyneside Friends of the Earth supports point b) in this policy on ensuring 'the prudent use of mineral resources in line with sustainable development objectives.' Given that sustainable development provides the overarching framework

Id No Respondent**Policy 43**

for all RSS policies, and with the potential for mineral extraction to cause significant environmental harm, this sentence needs to be elevated to become the policy's headline statement from which the detailed policy objectives flow. We recommend that the first sentence is amended to read as follows:

'Development Plans and Local Development Frameworks must ensure that aggregate minerals production is consistent with sustainable development principles and is set within the environmental limits of the region. Forecasting and provision must be based on a 'plan, monitor and manage' approach rather than 'predict and provide.' Specifically, they will:.....'

160 Highways Agency

Ensure land is made available to provide an appropriate contribution to local regional and national needs for minerals; ensure effective management of mineral extraction and processing sites; promote the transport and of minerals and mineral products by rail or water wherever practicable and minimise the effects of transport by road.

273 Member of Public

Again the RSS is opting out of responsibility by putting this function to MWDF's and LDF's. If there is an opt out by the RSS why should the LDF have to take any heed of regional or national needs...surely that is the whole point of the higher level RSS?

453 Member of Public

I support the view of the FoE on this policy

173 Morpeth & District Civic Society

Policy 43 – Overall Minerals Strategy page 117

We wish to seriously question the sense in allowing any further opencast coal operations in Northumberland. We have suffered from years of opencast operations around Morpeth – with always the threat of more to come. We question whether the region as a whole should endure any further such operations. The land is permanently degraded – leaving it fit for golf courses or rough grazing. We now have a superfluity of golf courses. The operations themselves generate a serious amount of air pollution as well as heavy traffic, noise and despoilation of the landscape – which last for years on end as extension permissions are granted. The regeneration of the North East depends upon capitalising upon its strengths. Without opencasting it can confidently offer a high quality environment – which is as good any. Opencast coal operations have become a net liability to the region. It is time to call a halt. Policy 43 should therefore be rewritten to achieve this. This is a matter that needs a regional strategy.

4. Regional Casino Development- Policy 17- page 71

I accept that casinos are attractive forms of economic activity to those who live in the Nevada desert and other locations where it is impossible to think of anything better to do .Do we want or need 'integrated leisure casinos ' in the North East ? The answer is no. Like opencast coal ,casinos send out the wrong message – that the region is desperate to attract any activity . The North East is much too good to be degraded by these activities -which in any event are counterproductive to overall economic health . Policy 17 should be deleted . Casinos should not be promoted as a regional policy .

449 National Trust North East

he Trust would like to support this policy, but would like the bullet points that are shown prior to the policy to be included within the policy (i.e. ensure the use of alternative materials where possible (note changes in wording from "encourage" to "ensure", and from "appropriate" to "possible"), protect the environment and local amenity and minimise the adverse impacts of the transport of minerals and minerals products.)

230 North East Chamber of Commerce

Safeguarding materials and encouraging the use of alternatives, as well as recycling are all crucial elements of the Minerals and Waste

121 North Pennines AONB Partnership

Policy 43 sets the overall minerals strategy; its proposals are well balanced and should not affect the industry unduly

Benefit from the same reference to the impact on protected landscapes provided in policy 41, Should also be more specific about the need to promote the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity on active extraction sites and through appropriate after-uses.

Id No	Respondent	Policy 43
222	Northumberland County Council	The County Council supports the policy as providing a broad policy framework for the preparation of Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks and Local Development Frameworks
124	South Tyneside Council	Page 117 Needs to say something about avoiding detrimental cumulative impact of minerals working, especially where effects straddle local authority boundaries
151	Sunderland ARC	Overall Minerals Strategy: supported
105	Tynedale Council	These policies set out provision that, it is expected, will be made not only via Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks but also via Local Development Frameworks. It should be made clear how LDFs would be expected to deal with the matter.