

Policy 44

Id No Respondent

155 Aggregate Industries UK Ltd

Policy 44

The policy addresses the quantitative supply of aggregate minerals but makes no qualitative distinction between reserves and therefore does not acknowledge the fact that certain types of aggregates are required for specific purposes. The policy also seeks to reduce the need for primary aggregates over the period 2001-2016 through the use of alternative (secondary and recycled) materials, including suitably located minerals recycling facilities, to enable the regional target of supplying 76 million tonnes of alternative materials to be met.

How confident is the Regional Assembly that this quantity of alternative material will be available? In particular the policy and the related paragraphs does not say how the figure of 76 million tonnes of alternative materials has been calculated, it does not address the problem of predicting the supply of demolition materials, or the quality of such recycled materials when available (as an example the uses to which crushed concrete can be put is much wider than crushed brick).

As a more general point, what is the status of the environmental appraisal referred to at paragraph 3.147 and how does the Regional Assembly intend to adjust the emerging minerals and waste strategy if the outcome of the environmental appraisal is inconsistent with the current proposals?

200 Environment Agency

3.147

This paragraph says “..in order to inform such decisions, a full environmental appraisal should be carried out of possible supply scenarios” - Is this appraisal something for RAWP, Minerals LDFs or something else?

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We support points a) and b).

163 Friends of the Earth North East

Friends of the Earth supports the emphasis on reducing the need for primary aggregates and increasing the use of alternative (secondary and recycled) materials

215 Government Office For The North

We are content with aggregates provision within the policy, which reflect the agreed sub-regional aggregates apportionment derived from the national and regional guidelines for aggregates provision in England 2001-2016. Whilst it is noted that the RSS covers the period to 2021, it is not possible at present to produce forecasts for aggregates provision extending beyond 2016. The aggregates guidelines are, however, subject to annual monitoring and review, and revision where this should prove to be necessary. It is noted from paras 4.24-4.25 of the consultation draft that the RSS itself will be subject to regular monitoring once it has been issued, and it is suggested that, at that time, policy 44 should be reviewed in the light of the prevailing policy guidance on national and regional aggregates provision.

160 Highways Agency

Make provision to maintain a land bank of planning permissions for primary aggregates which is sufficient to deliver 20 million tonnes of sand and gravel and 119 million tonnes of crushed rock over the 16 year period.

273 Member of Public

The aggregates industry is a very efficient pressure group so no surprises here. What I would offer though is the recycling of materials hasn't even touched what its potential has as I know from efforts colleagues have made over many years to actually recycle PFA into a usable primary aggregate. The science works but the industry doesn't want to know. I am also disappointed the RSS does not take any real position on clay as this is another so called justification in opencast mining and as there is no shortage why do opencast justify the odd million tonnes here and there.

230 North East Chamber of Commerce

Proposes the provision for landbanks of planning permission for the extraction of primary aggregates apportioned to sub-regions. However this positive approach is not extended to policies relating to opencast coal extraction.

222 Northumberland County Council

The County Council supports the broad policy framework for aggregate minerals provision

Id No Respondent

47 Northumberland Estates

Policy 44

In areas in Northumberland and elsewhere in the Region supply of aggregates is suppressed and quarries operating at nil or low levels of productivity are maintained in the landbank. Greater flexibility is required in particular to allow smaller and local operators to enter the market and to provide for sourcing minerals at a greater number of sites thereby reducing transport costs. MPA's should therefore plan for maintaining higher landbank to ensure a competitive market for minerals, allowing more sustainable travel patterns, and supporting minerals employment in rural areas.

The allocation of crushed rock between areas is disproportionate in relation to likely areas of future need. Consideration should be given to increasing the apportionment for Northumberland with a corresponding reduction in Durham to produce a more sustainable balance between areas of supply and demand. Future requirements for Tyne and Wear, where production is likely to significantly decrease should be transferred to Northumberland .

151 Sunderland ARC

Aggregate Minerals Provision: 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.