Minerals Sites Plan 2016 – Summary of issues raised to Mineral Sites

The Minerals Sites Plan

Approximately 240 responses were received from 152 contributing consultees (individuals/organisations).

Aggregate provision figures for 2014: The main issue relating to this update is that some respondents continue to challenge the proposed allocation of some of the aggregates sites on the grounds that there is an adequate supply of River Terrace sand and gravel, and no new sites are required.

Aggregates Area of Search: The proposed revision to the boundary of the Area of Search for future aggregates sites, removing environmental designations and undesignated land of importance to biodiversity, was generally well received.

Puddletown Road Area of Search: the proposed revision to the boundary, making it more relevant to features on the ground, was generally well received, although concerns about proximity to river corridors was expressed.

Potential site allocations: Four potential site allocations were included, three of which had been previously made public and one (comprising two separate areas) that was identified during the 2015 consultation. Brief summaries of the issues raised are set in the table below.

In addition to these sites, some comments were received on other sites which are still under consideration but were not included in this consultation as there had been no change in their status. These included the Moreton sites AS25 Station Road and AS26 Hurst Farm, and AS19 Woodsford Extension. There were further objections to these proposed sites.

Site option/proposed facility	Summary of issues
AS28 Gallows Hill (Areas A & B) • Provision of aggregates	These two areas were identified in the 2015 consultation. Very little information has been made available by the site nominees, and there were strong objections to these areas. Issues/impacts raised included: Lack of information provided, on the site and the possible working and restoration; amenity, dust, noise; visual and landscape; Scheduled Ancient Monument; Rights of Way; difficult or impossible to mitigate many impacts; biodiversity; traffic; hydrology/hydrogeology; quality/quantity of mineral not proven; cumulative impacts with Philliol's Farm.
AS12 Philliol's Farm • Provision of aggregates	This site has been previously under consideration, but the 2015 Draft Plan noted that it might not be required. However in order to keep all options open for preparing the final draft of the Minerals Plan, it was included in this Update, noting that it was still potentially under consideration.

	Numerous objections were received, and issues/impacts raised included: Limited provision of information; amenity, dust, noise; visual and landscape; Rights of Way; difficult or impossible to mitigate many impacts; biodiversity, including on protected species and European designated land; traffic; hydrology/hydrogeology; quality/quantity of mineral not proven; cumulative impacts with other sites in the vicinity; negative impacts on local economy.
AS14 Henbury Farm (Sturminster Marshall) • Provision of aggregates	This site has been previously under consideration, but the 2015 Draft Plan noted that it might not be required. However in order to keep all options open for preparing the final draft of the Minerals Plan, it was included in this Update, noting that it was still potentially under consideration. Strong objections have in the past been received, and although there were not such strong objections this time, issues/impacts raised were: Traffic impacts, especially access to/from the A31 and associated safety issues; potential impacts on hydrology/hydrogeology, as the site is within Source Protection Zone 1 associated with the nearby water extraction borehole. Other potential impacts include but are not limited to landscape/visual impacts and amenity impacts, and the need to provide information on quality/quantity of mineral present.
PK 16 Swanworth Extension • Provision of crushed rock	This site has been before the public previously, and in 2015 received both support and objection. The nominees have made further proposals seeking to minimise impacts, and for this reason the site was included in the most recent consultation. Further objections have been received, again focussing particularly on landscape (the proposed extension is in the Dorset AONB) issues and visual impacts, along with traffic issues. Potential impacts on water supply to Kingston village were also emphasised in this consultation.