**SUBMISSION OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE MINERALS LOCAL PLAN**

The County Council is at an advanced stage in the production of the replacement Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan. The Minerals Plan sets out planning policies against which future minerals development in Nottinghamshire (excluding the Nottingham City Area) will be assessed against as well as site specific allocations to meet expected minerals demand over the plan period to 2030.

I am writing to let you know that the Minerals Local Plan has been submitted to the Secretary of State and this is the start of the examination process. The documents which have been submitted to the Secretary of State include:

-       Minerals Local Plan Proposed Submission Document

-       Schedule of Proposed Modifications

-       Sustainability Appraisal

-       Consultation Statement (Regulation 22)

-       Representations Received

-       Duty to Co-Operate Statement

-       Supporting documents relevant to the production of the Minerals Local Plan

An independent Planning Inspector will shortly be appointed by the Secretary of State who will examine the Plan and its supporting evidence and consider all of the representations that were made.

Part of this process will involve a public hearing where the Inspector will hold round-table hearings in public to discuss specific issues. Those individuals or bodies that made formal representations on the Minerals Local Plan may be invited by the Inspector to speak at the hearings. The meetings are held in public and anyone can attend to listen to the proceedings. The timing of the hearing sessions will be decided by the planning Inspectorate, however it is anticipated that they are likely to take place in Spring 2017.

At the end of the examination process the Inspector will issue a report setting out whether or not they consider the Plan to be sound. If it is found sound, the County Council will seek to adopt the Minerals Local Plan.

**The Programme Officer**

The examination process will be administered by a Programme Officer who is independent from the Council and works directly to the Planning Inspector. Any queries regarding the examination process and all communication for the Planning Inspector should be directed to the Programme Officer.  The contact details for the Programme Officer will be made available on the County Councils webpage: [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/mineralslocalplanexamination](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/mineralslocalplanexamination) once they have been confirmed.

The Programme Officer will be writing to those who have made comments on the Minerals Local Plan in due to course to provide details of the hearings.

**Accessing the information relating to the examination**

All information relating to the examination of the Minerals Local Plan will be made available on our website [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/mineralslocalplanexamination](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/mineralslocalplanexamination), including correspondence between the Council and the Planning Inspector and the documents that make up the Minerals Local Plan evidence base.

The Programme Officer will hold a library of all relevant documents and these will be available to view during normal office hours at Nottinghamshire County Council, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP. (Please note that free internet access is available at all Nottinghamshire County Council libraries).

Printed copies of documents can be obtained by telephoning 0300 500 80 80 or by emailing development.plannning@nottscc.gov.uk. Please note a fee may be payable for certain documents.

**Further information on the examination process**

The Planning Inspectorate has produced a document to explain the process for examining Local Plans, which is available via the following website: [www.gov.uk/government/publications/examining-local-plans-procedural-practice](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/examining-local-plans-procedural-practice)

If you have any queries in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me.

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