

Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents

Minerals Background Paper

2009

Purpose of this Paper

This paper provides background information to the Tees Valley Joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents and contains information on where the figures and evidence used in the DPDs has been obtained. The information itself is not included in the actual DPDs in order to keep these documents in a concise form.

The paper covers National, Regional and Local planning policy of relevance to minerals; information on the sources of data and evidence used in the production of the DPDs; and full explanation of how various figures used in the DPDs have been obtained.

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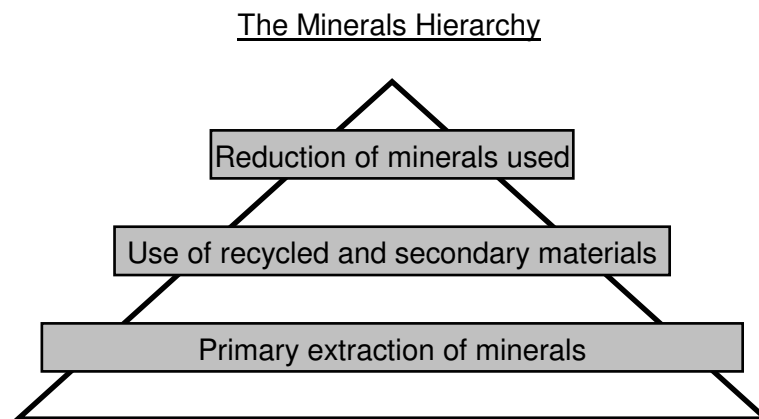
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1. Minerals Policy and Information

1.1 National Policy

Minerals Policy Statement 1: Planning and Minerals

- 1.1.1 The national objectives that are expected to be followed by the planning system are contained within MPS1 (DCLG, 2006). These aim to ensure a supply of minerals under the hierarchical approach. This is set out below, where priority is given to the reduction of minerals used, then to the provision of materials from recycled and secondary sources, and finally sourcing minerals from primary extraction.



- 1.1.2 MPS1 also provides objectives for minerals planning which are for the conservation and safeguarding of mineral resources as far as possible, while securing adequate and steady supplies of the minerals needed by society and the economy within the limits set by the environment. The objectives also seek to prevent or minimise the production of mineral waste and to encourage the use of high quality materials for the purposes for which they are most suitable.
- 1.1.3 Working practices which prevent or reduce impacts on the environment and human health should be secured and internationally and nationally designated areas of landscape value and nature conservation importance should be protected. Reclamation schemes should protect and seek to enhance the overall quality of the environment once extraction has ceased and safeguard the long-term potential of land for a wide range of after-uses. The benefits of minerals operations should be maximised, and the impacts minimised, over their full life cycle and promotion given to the sustainable transport of minerals. Closer integration of minerals planning policy with national policy on sustainable construction and waste management and other applicable environmental protection legislation should also be secured.

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- 1.1.4 The accompanying Practice Guide to MPS1 offers examples of good practice and background information to assist those involved in minerals planning.

Minerals Policy Statement 2: Controlling and Mitigating the Environmental Effects of Minerals Extraction in England

- 1.1.5 MPS2 sets out the policies and considerations in relation to the environmental effects of minerals extraction which need to be followed in the preparation of development plans and when considering of planning applications. The statement acknowledges that minerals can only be worked where they are found and this means they could be located in environmentally sensitive or designated landscape areas or in proximity to communities. The need to keep any impacts to an acceptable minimum is therefore a high priority.
- 1.1.6 Development plans and the consideration of proposals should take into account the following:
- The impacts of working such as visual intrusion, dewatering, water pollution, noise, dust and fine particulates, blasting and traffic;
 - Impacts on the landscape, agricultural land, soil resources, ecology;
 - Archaeological and cultural heritage value;
 - The benefits of providing the minerals, including to the economy, for construction materials and environmental improvements from restoration schemes;
 - The methods of control available through planning conditions or agreements.
- 1.1.7 Two annexes to the statement have been published which provide specific guidance on dust and noise.

The National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregates Provision

- 1.1.8 A note was issued by the then ODPM in 2003 which set out the guidelines figures for the provision of aggregates minerals on a national and regional level for the period 2001 - 2016. The guideline figures issued are reviewed on an annual basis, with the results of the latest review being issued in September 2006. These reviews have not led to any amendments to the guideline figures since their original publication.
- 1.1.9 The guidelines assume that recycled and alternative (secondary) aggregates will meet 23% of the national requirement for aggregates over the time period. The guideline figures state that the North East should make provision for 20 million tonnes of land-won sand & gravel and 119 million tonnes of land-won crushed rock from primary sources between 2001 and 2016. The guidelines assume that over the same period the North East would supply 9 million tonnes of marine dredged sand & gravel and 76 million tonnes of alternative materials.

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- 1.1.10 The note also states that Regional Planning Bodies need to break down the figures to the individual Mineral Planning Authority areas within their region, in a process known as sub-regional apportionment.

1.2 Regional Policy

- 1.2.1 There are three policies on minerals contained within the RSS¹. Policy 42 contains an overall minerals strategy which states that Local Development Frameworks should:

- Ensure that land is available to provide an appropriate contribution to local, regional and national needs for minerals;
- Ensure the prudent use of minerals resources in line with sustainable development objectives;
- Ensure the effective environmental management of mineral extraction and processing, high quality restoration and aftercare, and appropriate beneficial after uses;
- Promote the transport of minerals and minerals products by rail or water wherever practicable and minimise the effects of transport by road;
- Identify and safeguard significant mineral resources from other types of development; and
- Include criteria based policies for the assessment of minerals proposals.

- 1.2.2 Policy 43 relates to aggregates minerals and provides an apportionment to the Tees Valley for aggregates production from 2001-2021. This apportionment is for 0.21 million tonnes of sand and gravel and 2.9 million tonnes of crushed rock to be produced in this time. The policy also sets out how the need for primary aggregates can be reduced through the use of secondary materials and marine dredged sand and gravel.

- 1.2.3 Policy 44 states that there should be a presumption against opencast coal extraction, unless the proposals are environmentally and sustainably acceptable and the benefits outweigh the disturbance caused. Where opencast is considered acceptable, the opportunity should also be taken to extract the associated fireclay and to transport the coal by rail if possible.

1.3 Local Policy

- 1.3.1 The only policies available at a local level are currently found in the Hartlepool Local Plan which has five minerals policies covering the safeguarding of minerals resources, the encouragement of using secondary aggregates,

¹ The North East of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021, GONE, July 2008

general criteria for assessing minerals proposals, the transportation of minerals and the restoration of sites.

- 1.3.2 Other minerals and waste policies were previously set out in the Tees Valley Structure Plan 2004. These have now been superseded by the Regional Spatial Strategy, which was published in 2008.

1.4 Minerals Information

Geology

- 1.4.1 Superficial deposits in the region are relatively uniform, consisting mostly of Glacial Till and, at the Tees Estuary, Fluvial Sands and Gravels. However, the underlying solid geology of the area is more varied.
- 1.4.2 Broadly, the underlying geological strata dip to the south east toward Middlesbrough. The oldest rocks are the Carboniferous Coal Measures, Magnesian Limestone and Millstone Grit series, which outcrop to the north and west of Darlington. Overlying these strata to the east are the Permian and Triassic Sandstones which include the Sherwood Sandstone, a major aquifer. The Permian and Triassic Sandstones form the main underlying rocktype from Darlington to the mouth of the Tees. To the south of the Tees, the youngest rocktypes are found, around Middlesbrough and Guisborough. The solid strata in this area comprises the Keuper Marl (Mercia Mudstone) and the Jurassic Sandstones. It is these strata that also underlie the North York Moors National Park.

Minerals Extraction

- 1.4.3 Several of the rocktypes described above constitute important economic reserves. The Coal Measures have previously yielded high quality coal, the Keuper marl is an important source of rock salt and the Magnesian Limestone is used in a variety of industries, from cement to pharmaceuticals. The superficial deposits in the area have also yielded quantities of sand and gravel for use mainly as aggregates in the concrete industry. The geology of the Tees Valley has also yielded potash, iron ore, alum and gypsum amongst others. However not all of these resources may currently be viable for extraction due to their quality, their quantity or issues with their extraction, such as the depth of the deposits.
- 1.4.4 Historically minerals extraction in the Tees Valley was focussed on iron ore and alum in the East Cleveland areas, coal extraction in land close to County Durham and the extraction of salt and gypsum around Billingham. The extraction of these minerals gradually declined due to materials from other areas proving to be more consistent in quality terms, being available in greater amounts and being easier to extract.
- 1.4.5 In recent years, minerals extraction has been focussed on primary aggregates, including sand, gravel and crushed rock. However operations for these minerals are small scale, due to the limited extent of remaining

resources in the ground and difficulties in extracting those resources which do exist. There are presently two sand and gravel sites, and one crushed rock site, with extant planning permissions in the Tees Valley. The sand and gravel sites are at Thorpe Thewles in Stockton, and a beach extraction site at North Gare in Hartlepool. The crushed rock site is located at Hart Quarry, also in Hartlepool.

- 1.4.6 In addition to these primary extraction sites, the Tees Valley produces significant quantities of secondary aggregates from the material produced in steel making processes. In addition to this marine dredged sands and gravels are also landed at two wharves on the River Tees.
- 1.4.7 The potash mine at Boulby is within the boundaries of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, but it also falls within the North York Moors National Park. Therefore the responsibilities for planning decisions on the mine itself lie with the National Park Authority, and are not considered here.

Published Information

- 1.4.8 Further information on the minerals situation in the Tees Valley is provided by the BGS. Their Technical Report WF/00/6 Minerals Resource Information for Development Plans Durham and the Tees Valley and the accompanying mapping, provides information on historical and existing minerals extraction in the Tees Valley and various information on minerals resources in the area. The BGS have also produced a series of factsheets on various different minerals, and those on gypsum, potash and salt have also been used in the production of the DPDs.
- 1.4.9 The Coal Authority has also published maps showing the extent of surface coal resources in the Tees Valley area, which update the information provided by the BGS (Surface Coal Resource data for Development Plans, Coal Authority)

2. Sand and Gravel

2.1 Apportionment

- 2.1.1 The apportionment of sand and gravel production guidelines is a process involving national, regional and local government. National government set guideline production figures for each of the regions in England in their 2003 note 'The National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregate Provision'. This note advised that the North East should make provision for 20 million tonnes of land-won sand and gravel production between 2001 and 2016. These figures are reviewed on an annual basis and have remained the same to date. This regional figure is extended to 2021, and then split down to a sub-regional level, by the RSS for the North East taking into account guidance from the North East Regional Aggregates Working Party (NE RAWP). The sub-regional apportionment of these figures identified that the Tees Valley should make provision for 210,000 tonnes of sand and gravel between 2001 and 2021. It is then the responsibility of the minerals planning authorities at a local level to attempt to meet these guidelines figures by ensuring that there are sufficient reserves in permitted sand and gravel sites. If there are not sufficient permitted reserves, additional land containing resources to meet the shortfall can be allocated. These allocated sites still require planning permission to be obtained before development can commence.
- 2.1.2 Given that the DPDs are looking ahead to 2025, rather than 2021, this rate of provision has been rolled forward again here to 2025 to provide a guideline production figure to that date. This means that the Tees Valley's sub-regional apportionment figure is 250,000 tonnes from 2001 to 2025.

2.2 Existing Reserves

- 2.2.1 The situation with regard to sand and gravel provision in the Tees Valley is complicated due to there only being one operator of sand and gravel sites and their production and reserves information being confidential. Information on sand and gravel reserves and production is contained within the annual monitoring reports produced by the NE RAWP. To avoid making commercially sensitive information available, the figures published in these reports must be made up of at least three operators' individual figures. This means that no one operator's figures can be calculated. The only time that individual operator's figures can be shown is where there is written agreement of this from that operator and the operator in the Tees Valley has not agreed to this. This means that there are no published figures on how much sand and gravel has been produced in the Tees Valley since 2001, and therefore how much sand and gravel is still needed to be produced up until 2025.

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- 2.2.2 There are two sand and gravel extraction sites which have active planning permissions in the Tees Valley; one which is a beach extraction site at North Gare in Hartlepool and the second a land based site at Stockton Quarry near Thorpe Thewles. The sand and gravel at the North Gare site is, in theory, constantly replenished by the actions of the tide bringing in material to replace that which is extracted. However there is no guarantee that this process will continue and therefore the site can not be used as a source of permitted reserves. As it is not possible to directly identify the amount of reserves at Stockton Quarry, advice from Government Office North East is that an estimation of the reserves should be made, based on what information is available.

Estimate of Stockton Quarry Reserves

- 2.2.3 Planning permission was originally granted for the extraction of sand and gravel at Stockton Quarry by the former Cleveland County Council in August 1991 (Application ref: CS/2221/90). The site is located to the east of Thorpe Thewles and is split into two sections, north and south of Wynyard Road. Due to a number of internal issues with the applicant and some unexpected site conditions, the site was not worked within the timescales set out in the original permission. A number of variations to the permission have been approved since 1991 to change what operations can take place and to extend the time available for workings to be undertaken. The current situation is that the southern part of the site is available for future extractive works and is covered by a planning permission which runs until July 2015.
- 2.2.4 The total area of land covered by the planning permission at Stockton Quarry is approximately 31ha in size. However not all of this area is available to be worked as a condition restricted working on part of the northern site due to previous tipping of waste materials. The remainder of the northern part of the site has already been worked to provide space for the site's plant and processing machinery. It is therefore estimated that there is around 20ha available for sand and gravel extraction. Information contained in the BGS Technical Report WF/00/06 - Mineral Resource Information for Development Plans Durham and the Tees Valley indicates that the site is located on reserves of concealed river sand and gravel resources and glacial sand and gravel resources. The report does not give an indication of the average depth of river sand and gravels in the area in which Stockton Quarry is located. For glacial resources the report advises that average depths are of 8.3m around Billingham and 6.8m in the Sedgfield area. Stockton Quarry is located between these two areas and therefore a halfway figure of 7.65m has been used for the potential depth of resources. Given a working area of 20ha and a depth of resource of 7.65m, this would provide a volume of 1,530,000m³ of sand and gravel at the site. To convert this to tonnes, the weight or gravity of sand and gravel per cubic metre is required. Information supplied by the BGS indicates that a figure of 1.62 tonnes per cubic metre is appropriate to use (e-mail from Anthea Brown 6 September 2007). This therefore gives a tonnage of reserves for the site of 2,478,600 tonnes of sand and gravel.
- 2.2.5 The situation in the Tees Valley therefore is:

Table 2.1 Sand and Gravel Information

Tees Valley guideline production figure (2001-2021)	210,000 tonnes
Guideline figure extended to 2025	250,000 tonnes
Amount produced in Tees Valley (2001-2006*)	Confidential Figure
Revised guideline production figure (2006-2021)	Confidential Figure
Permitted reserves/allocated resources (Dec 2008)	2,478,600 tonnes

*The most up to date information available for sand and gravel sales is in the Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report produced by the NE RAWP for 2006.

2.2.6 The most up to date information on sand and gravel production in the North East is contained in the 2006 NE RAWP Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report². However the amount of sand and gravel produced in the Tees Valley is confidential and therefore it can not be identified what has been produced from 2001 to 2007 and how much material is still required to be produced to 2025. However, given that there are potential resources identified of just under 2.5 million tonnes, this would be more than sufficient to meet the extended sub-regional apportionment figure of 250,000 tonnes for the whole period between 2001 and 2025. The resources identified would also allow the Tees Valley to maintain a 7 year landbank (as set out in Minerals Policy Statement 1). This is calculated by comparing the annual requirement for minerals production with the permitted reserves. The annual requirement is for 10,000 tonnes of sand and gravel to be produced (250,000 tonnes from 2001 to 2025 inclusive) and there are estimated to be 2.5 million tonnes in the permitted reserves giving a landbank of 250 years.

² Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report 2007, North East Region Aggregates Working Party, May 2009

3. Crushed Rock

3.1 Apportionment

- 3.1.1 The apportionment process for crushed rock is the same as for sand and gravel (detailed in paragraph 2.1.1). The process has identified that the North East should aim to provide 156 million tonnes of land-won crushed rock between 2001 and 2021 and that the Tees Valley should make provision for 2.9 million tonnes in that time.
- 3.1.2 As with sand and gravel, there is only one crushed rock operator in the Tees Valley: Sherburn Stone who operate Hart Quarry in Hartlepool. Sherburn Stone agreed to their information being published in the 2005 NE RAWP Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report meaning that there are publicly available figures on production and reserves of crushed rock in the Tees Valley for that year. However, it should be noted that Sherburn Stone have not given their agreement for their figures to be published since 2005 and that it has been necessary to make assumptions that the 2005 figures are typical figures for the quarry.
- 3.1.3 The situation for land-won crushed rock in the Tees Valley is therefore:

Table 3.1 Crushed Rock Information

Tees Valley guideline production figure (2001-2021)	2,900,000 tonnes
Extended guideline production figure to 2025	3,450,000 tonnes
Amount produced in Tees Valley (2001-2006 [#])	498,000 tonnes*
Revised guideline production figure (2006-2025)	2,952,000 tonnes
Permitted reserves/allocated resources (Dec 2006)	4,017,000 tonnes [^]

[#]The most up to date information on crushed rock sales is from the Annual Aggregates Monitoring Report produced by the NE RAWP for 2005.

*The production figures for Sherburn Stone at Hart Quarry were confidential between 2001 and 2004, and only made available for the 2005 NE RAWP report. The 2005 production figure was therefore multiplied to give a production figure for 2001-2006.

[^]Hart Quarry contains further reserves of rock, but not all of these are considered suitable for aggregate uses.

- 3.1.4 For crushed rock it can therefore be seen that the existing permitted reserves in the Tees Valley are sufficient to meet the guideline figures identified through to 2025.
- 3.1.5 The landbank for crushed rock is based on an average annual requirement of 138,000 tonnes of rock (3,450,000 tonnes from 2001 to 2021 inclusive) and

4,017,000 tonnes of permitted reserves. This gives a landbank of 29.1 years at 2006, which would meet the advice to maintain a landbank of at least 10 years (Minerals Planning Statement 1).

4. Coal

4.1 Potential for Future Workings

- 4.1.1 Initial contact was made to the coal industry (UK Coal, HJ Banks, ATH and Hall Construction) during the evidence gathering stage, and Peter Wood of UK Coal attended the workshop held in December 2006. However no responses from any consultees, either at the evidence gathering stage or during the consultation stages, have been received in relation to coal.
- 4.1.2 Comments made at the workshop were that a local supply of coal from the Tees Valley area, or its immediate surrounding, would be beneficial given the existing and expected demand in the area (Sembcorp and potential clean coal power station in the South Tees area). However, it was felt that viable resources would be difficult to locate, and if they were, then environmental designations would render extraction difficult. In addition, the low level of coal extraction in the sub-region over recent years would mean any proposals for coal extraction would be likely to face significant public opposition. However no evidence was put forward as to the actual existence of viable resources and the following background information has therefore been considered to determine if there are any such resources available. Coal resource areas
- 4.1.3 The BGS identified resource areas for both shallow and deep resources of coal in the UK in 1999. These resource areas are shown on the 'Minerals UK' pages of the BGS website³. For deep coal (classed by the BGS as coal lying deeper than 1200m) the only areas within the Tees Valley where resources are identified are in the north of Hartlepool Borough. However, no records have been able to be found indicating any history of coal extraction from this area⁴. The closest deep mines to the Hartlepool area were at Castle Eden Colliery (closed 1959) and Blackhall Colliery (closed 1981). The last deep mine in the wider Durham area was at Vane Tempest Colliery which closed in 1999⁵. The BGS has produced a series of minerals planning factsheets, including one on coal and coalbed methane⁶ and this advises that any future coal extraction in the UK is likely to be undertaken by opencast methods, rather than by deep mining. Given this advice and the lack of deep mining in

³ http://www.bgs.ac.uk/mineralsuk/digital_maps/maps/home.html

⁴ BGS website, Minerals UK pages http://www.bgs.ac.uk/mineralsuk/digital_maps/maps/home.html and Durham Mining Museum records www.dmm.org.uk

⁵ Durham Mining Museum records www.dmm.org.uk

⁶ Coal and Coalbed Methane Mineral Planning Factsheet, BGS and Department of Communities and Local Government, October 2006 and Surface Coal Resource data for Development Plans, Coal Authority, letter to Darlington Borough Council dated 29 May 2009

Hartlepool and the surrounding area since 1981, it is considered unlikely that there are viable deep resources of coal at the present time.

- 4.1.4 For shallow coal, the resource maps on the BGS website and from the Coal Authority show that the only resources located beneath the Tees Valley are limited to very small area of Darlington Borough. Opencast working has been undertaken in this area in the past, with the last opencasting taking place in Darlington in 2005. The BGS factsheet on coal advises that opencast workings undertaken in the last 25 years are likely to have exhausted all resources of coal and therefore it is considered that any coal resources left within Darlington's boundaries would be too small to be viable.

5. Marine Dredged Sand and Gravel

5.1 Wharves

- 5.1.1 There are a number of wharves in the plan area capable of dealing with the landing of marine dredged sand and gravels. For a number of years, the NE RAWP Annual Aggregates Monitoring Reports have identified Tees Wharf and Cochrane's Wharf in Middlesbrough as locations where marine dredged sand and gravels are landed. In addition, research undertaken during the preparation of the Minerals and Waste DPDs has also identified that Teesport (Redcar and Cleveland), Graythorp Yard (Hartlepool), Billingham Reach Industrial Estate (Stockton-on-Tees, Dawson's Wharf, Middlesbrough Wharf and Middlesbrough Port/North Wharf (all Middlesbrough) are, or would be, suitable for landing sand and gravels. Some of these wharves are already involved with the landing of sand and gravels imported from land won sources outside of the Tees Valley.
- 5.1.2 The RSS identifies that existing wharves should be safeguarded and, where appropriate, new wharves identified, to enable a minimum of 9 million tonnes of marine dredged sand and gravel to be landed across the whole of the North East from 2001-2021. Extending this to 2025 would increase the target figure to 11.1 million tonnes. From 2001 to 2006, the North East landed 6.5 million tonnes of marine dredged material, meaning that 4.6 million tonnes are still required to meet the target figure. Figures from NE RAWP⁷ reports show that the Tees Valley typically provides around 35% (385,000 tonnes) of the North East's annual landings through Tees Wharf and Cochranes Wharf. The continuation of landings at this rate would allow the target figure to easily be met.
- 5.1.3 To allow this rate of landings to continue, the DPDs are to safeguard land connected to the existing wharves to allow ensure their operations are maintained and expanded if necessary. However, Tees Wharf, Cochrane's Wharf, Dawson's Wharf, Middlesbrough Wharf and Middlesbrough port are all located within the Greater Middlehaven regeneration area or East Middlesbrough Business Action Zone (EMBAZ), which are covered by site-specific policies (Middlesbrough Regeneration DPD Policies REG1 and REG16) relating to their regeneration and development, in the Middlesbrough Regeneration DPD. Whilst the relevant Regeneration DPD policies do not, explicitly, exclude wharf uses from the final land uses, the continued use of these wharves may lead to other regeneration developments becoming

⁷ Annual Aggregates Monitoring Reports, North East Region Aggregates Working Party, 2004 Report published August 2006, 2003 Report published January 2005, 2002 published September 2003, 2001 Report published March 2003. The 2005 and 2006 Reports do not report the figures for the Tees Valley due to reasons of commercial confidentiality.

unviable, due to the potential impacts created by the everyday activities at the wharves. The policy stance in the Middlesbrough Regeneration DPD is clear that new development proposed as part of regeneration schemes would take precedence over existing uses. As a result, there is no guarantee the wharves in these locations will continue to import marine dredged aggregates or be safeguarded from future development. For this reason, these wharves can not be specifically identified for safeguarding as this would conflict with Middlesbrough's Regeneration DPD.

- 5.1.4 The wharves at Teesport, Graythorp Yard and Billingham Reach Industrial Estate are therefore to be safeguarded. Tees Dock at Teesport currently lands around 200,000 tonnes per annum of bulk materials⁸ and the size and facilities available at Graythorp Yard and Billingham Reach are more than comparable to Tees Wharf and Cochrane's Wharf. The safeguarding of these three wharves is therefore considered to provide adequate replacement capacity should a situation arise where Tees Wharf and Cochrane's Wharf are closed. However, it is important to note that it is not definite that Tees Wharf, Cochrane's Wharf, Dawson's Wharf, Middlesbrough Wharf and Middlesbrough Port would close and therefore they will still be able to provide capacity during the plan period, providing flexibility over provision.

⁸ www.thpal.co.uk/teesport/teesdock/bulks.asp as published on 17 March 2009. The term 'bulk materials' covers a range of materials including aggregates.

6. Safeguarding of Mineral Resources

6.1 Requirement for Safeguarding

- 6.1.1 MPS1 requires that Local Development Documents define minerals safeguarding areas in order that proven resources are not needlessly sterilised by non-minerals development. Within the safeguarding areas, the prior extraction of minerals is encouraged where non-minerals development is necessary and this extraction is practicable. It also requires that existing, planned and potential rail heads, wharves and associated storage, handling and processing facilities, which can be used for the bulk transport of minerals be safeguarded.
- 6.1.2 RSS policy 43 also requires that Development Frameworks should identify and safeguard significant mineral resources from other types of development.
- 6.1.3 The Issues and Options report identified that viable minerals resources in the Tees Valley are relatively scarce. Two potential approaches were therefore put forward for safeguarding:
- That the scarcity of resources meant those which remain should be afforded a high degree of protection through a safeguarding policy; or
 - Given that viable resources are so scarce there is little point on safeguarding them
- 6.1.4 There was a clear preference for the safeguarding of minerals resources to take place from the comments received. However, at the Preferred Options stage there were difficulties in identifying minerals resources likely to be worked as there is little evidence available about the quality or viability of resources. Therefore, the preferred option was to safeguard the existing minerals sites to prevent any development occurring which could prejudice the extraction operations and lead to work ceasing at the sites. As no other sites were being allocated, the existing sites were the only sources of identified, viable resources and, as a result, this was considered an appropriate approach to take.
- 6.1.5 Comments made on the Preferred Options concentrated more on the wording of the policy rather than its approach but subsequent discussions and advice received raised concerns over what should be safeguarded. The discussions raised the point of view that as it was not known whether other minerals resources were viable or not, only safeguarding existing sites could lead to some resources which were viable being sterilised. Advice provided by the the BGS⁹ is that a 'safety first' approach should be used where the geological

⁹ A Guide to Mineral Safeguarding in England (OR/07/035), McEvoy, Cowley, Hobden, Bee and Hannis, BGS, 2007

location of minerals resources is used as a starting point and then amended to identify areas where minerals could be extracted in the future.

6.2 Identifying Safeguarding Areas

6.2.1 Information from the BGS was used as a basis for identifying the safeguarding areas¹⁰ with the geological resource boundaries they have available then amended by the following information.

6.2.2 The boundaries of the following environmental designations were removed from the geological resources as the designations mean that mineral extraction is unlikely to occur or it would be more difficult to obtain planning permission.

- Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area;
- Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Ramsar site;
- Teesmouth National Nature Reserve;
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
- Local Nature Reserves;
- Site of Nature Conservation Interest;
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments;
- Conservation Areas;
- Registered Parks and Gardens;
- North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage Coast; and
- Green Wedges.

6.2.3 In addition, the following physical features were also taken into consideration in amending the geological boundaries.

- Urban areas;
- Villages and hamlets in rural areas;
- Main transport routes including roads and rail lines;
- Electricity pylons; and
- Allocations in Local Plans or Local Development Documents.

¹⁰ http://www.bgs.ac.uk/mineralsuk/digital_maps/maps/home.html and Minerals Resource Information for Development Plans Durham and the Tees Valley: Resources and Constraints, BGS, 2000

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- 6.2.4 Land was added to the south of Aycliffe Quarry on the border with County Durham as, although the BGS does not identify rock resources in this area, information from the operator is that there is a potentially viable resource here.

7. Policy MWC1: Partial Policy Indicator

- 7.1.1 Indicators are provided in all possible instances in the policies throughout the two DPDs in order that it can be fully assessed whether the policy is being met or not. However, in Policy MWC1 (b) on the amount of recycled materials used in construction it has been necessary to reference an indicator which will only provide a partial indication of whether the policy has been successful. This is due to their being other factors which would indicate the delivery of this part of the policy but the information on these factors are either confidential or they are not available at the Tees Valley level.
- 7.1.2 The estimates of Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste arisings and the estimates of arising and use of other materials which can be used as aggregates, which are recorded by the Department of Communities and Local Government, combine the Tees Valley figures with those for County Durham. These figures are also reported as combined figures in the NE RAWP reports. These combined figures can not be used as indicators here as issues in County Durham, which are external to the Tees Valley, could have a bearing on the indicator figures and give a distorted view of its implementation.
- 7.1.3 The combined figures are not able to be split apart as operator's individual returns to the annual NE RAWP surveys are confidential and there are not sufficient operators in the Tees Valley to allow the returns to be combined to mask individual operator's figures. They are therefore are not able to be reproduced in the NE RAWP reports or here.
- 7.1.4 The amount and type of information which is available for both of these factors does not allow meaningful assumptions to be made about the split between the two sub-regions, and therefore the DPDs can not make estimates on this.

Appendix A

Glossary

2 Pages

Aggregates:	Minerals that are used in construction processes such as concrete manufacture and road making.
British Geological Society (BGS):	Provides geo-science and geological advice to the Government and to industry, educational establishments and the public.
Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste:	Waste that arises from construction activities, from the demolition of buildings and structures and from excavations. Often referred to as Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste.
Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG):	Central Government office which has responsibility for planning.
Development Plan Documents (DPDs):	The Documents within a Local Development Framework which outline how planning will be managed in a particular area.
Environment:	All living and non-living things which occur naturally. Where the DPDs discuss the affect of development on the environment they are considering issues including (but not limited to): biodiversity, water resources, cultural heritage, landscape and visual, contaminated land,
Government Office North East (GONE):	The representatives of the Central Government in the North East of England.
Internationally designated sites:	Sites designated for a nature conservation importance by either European regulations or international agreements (SPAs, SACs and Ramsar sites)
Joint Strategy Unit (JSU):	See 'Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit'
Local Development Frameworks (LDF):	A folder of documents which outlines how planning will be managed in a particular area.
Minerals Hierarchy	
Minerals Policy Statements (MPS):	National planning policy on minerals, published by central Government. Replacing Minerals Planning Guidance.
NE RAWP:	The North East Regional Aggregates Working Party. Provides advice on the provision and planning for aggregates in the North East.
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM):	Central Government office which formerly held responsibility for planning matters. Now replaced by the Department of Communities and Local Government.
Opencast:	Method of coal mining utilised when the coal is located near to the surface. Soils and rock lying above the coal are stripped from the surface and the coal then removed. Also referred to as surface mining.
Petrochemical:	Petrochemicals are chemical products made from raw materials of petroleum or other hydrocarbon origin.

Primary Aggregates:	Materials that are used in construction processes, and are sourced from their natural locations in the ground.
Primary Minerals:	Minerals which are sourced from their natural locations in the ground.
Reclamation:	The process of restoring land following development (restoration) and the management of the restored land (aftercare).
Ramsar sites:	Ramsar sites are designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (held in Ramsar, Iran).
Recycled Aggregates:	Materials used in construction processes which are sourced from previously used aggregates - such as demolition waste, tarmac highways planings or excavation materials.
Recycling:	The processing of materials found within waste streams into another form, which can then be used for a beneficial use.
Restoration:	The process of restoring developed land to its original state, or to another beneficial use.
Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS):	Contains planning policies and guidance on a regional level. Formerly known as Regional Planning Guidance (RPG).
Safeguarding:	Opportunities to extract minerals resources are preserved by preventing them from being sterilised (preventing development from occurring which would restrict the opportunities to extract the minerals at a future date).
Secondary Aggregates:	Materials that are used in construction processes, and are sourced from the by-products of industrial processes or salvaged from demolition activities.
SPA (Special Protection Area):	Areas designated for their importance as a habitat for rare (listed on Annex I to the EC Directive on the conservation of wild birds) and migratory birds within Europe.
Spatial Planning:	The combination of traditional land use planning with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they function and which are not capable of being delivered solely or mainly through the determination of planning permissions.
SSSI (Sites of Special Scientific Interest):	National suite of sites providing statutory protection for the best examples of the UK's flora, fauna, or geological or physio-graphical features.
Sub-Region:	The Tees Valley is a sub-region of the North East region, along with County Durham, Tyne and Wear and Northumberland.
Superficial deposits:	Geological term for material such as sands, gravels, clays and silts, which are located on top of solid bedrocks.
Tees Valley:	The southern part of the North East region, consisting of the Boroughs of Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton.
Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit:	An organisation which works with the five local authorities of the Tees Valley on strategic issues which have relevance across the whole area.