

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MINERALS AND WASTE SITE MONITORING PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Gloucestershire is a historic county with a rich natural, built and heritage environment. With a growing population and economy, the County requires increased and improved infrastructure, some of which is provided through its local mineral and waste management resources. Any conflict this might bring to local amenity is minimised through appropriately siting development and controlling operations; this is partly regulated through the planning system. Where planning permissions are given, this will be conditional on a number of operational restrictions and requirements which might include limits on extraction, following agreed methods of working and a requirement to restore or improve the land following the end of operations.

Effective monitoring of sites - through periodic inspections - is important in ensuring that operations comply with the planning permissions given. Visits will be undertaken at least once annually to all mineral sites, and selected waste management sites, to assess compliance against all planning conditions, and to offer assistance to operators in meeting their obligations.

Gloucestershire County Council's Mineral and Waste Site Monitoring Plan sets out in more detail how this is done.

Sections 2 and 4 of the Plan sets out the scope of the service, the resources available to undertake this work, our aspirations, and how we work with colleagues across other departments on matters of joint interest.

Section 3 sets out the legal powers we have, including a requirement for operators to allow the Council to undertake inspections, and charge for them.

Section 5 identifies how we approach and undertake these inspections, and what happens afterwards. Where there are compliance issues, we will always try to work with operators and landowners to resolve any breaches of planning. However, where there are serious or persistent breaches, the matter will be escalated to the Planning Enforcement team.