

NEWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

newlandparishcouncil.gov.uk
Clerk Richard S Crighton CiLCA

Programme Officer
Helen Wilson
BA(Hons)x

Our ref: P174/2354

Your ref:

3 May 2019

Dear Ms Wilson

GLOUCESTERSHIRE MINERALS LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION – MATTERS, ISSUES & QUESTIONS

Newland Parish Council wishes to respond to **Q.41**, under Policy DM01 – “Should the Policy refer to the use of any buffer zones?”

This Council has consistently, over many years, when responding to minerals planning applications insisted on a buffer zone of 250m from the threshold of the curtilage of any property (other than, possibly, that which is the ownership of the applicant). It is felt that this is the very minimum distance which will provide any sort of protection from noise, dust, vibration and other elements potentially injurious to health.

We understand that other authorities impose buffer zones at a *minimum* distance of 250M, eg:

- County Durham: 250m or 500m for blasting (groups of 10 or more dwellings)
- Leicestershire: 500m
- South Lanarkshire: 250m
- Somerset: 400m
- British Geological Survey guidelines: 250-500m

We can see no reason why residents of Gloucestershire should be subjected to disturbance closer to their properties than elsewhere in the UK.

Furthermore, many areas of minerals extraction are located in rural areas frequented by tourists and surrounded by public footpaths and in, or close to, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, thus we maintain that the maximum possible protection should be offered to those attracted to such areas, where tourism is the major source of local income.

We maintain that the insistence on buffer zones of a minimum of 250m satisfies NPPF(2018) paragraphs 205 (a) to (c) and we thus urge you to insist that this condition is written in to the Minerals Local Plan.

As requested I enclose three copies of this letter and an electronic pdf version has today be sent to you by email.

Yours very truly

**RICHARD S CRIGHTON CiLCA
CLERK**