

Norfolk County Council, Mineral Planning Authority

Respondent: Mr Richard Drake (ID: 617458)

Submission no: 209

Hearing Issue 6: South Wootton (E.3)

6.2 Have the implications of the Minerals Safeguarding Area been addressed by the Council?

The Mineral Planning Authority considers that the BCKLWN have not full addressed the implications of the Mineral Safeguarding Area. Policy E3.1 as submitted is not effective, and is inconsistent with national policy. Our representation (ref 209) on this matter in Section 5 sets out our reasoning for concluding that the policy as drafted is unsound, and the Inspector's attention is drawn to this section. Briefly, Policy E3.1 does not contain provisions for the investigation and assessment of the Mineral Safeguarding Area (MSA) which partially underlies the site.

The Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Policy CS16 and national policy indicate that where non-mineral development is proposed on a MSA, site investigation, assessment and potentially prior extraction are required to ensure that needless sterilisation does not occur.

To ensure that Policy E3.1 is effective and consistent with national policy, Section 6 of our representation (ref 209) highlights the modifications which the Mineral Planning Authority considers necessary. These modifications to the Plan will rectify the soundness issues raised, and will mean that the implications of the Mineral Safeguarding Area will be addressed in Policy E3.1.