

From: McMahon, Rob
Sent: 24 September 2015 11:24
To: Minerals and Waste Plan Consultation - E&E
Subject: Oxfordshire County Council's revised draft gravel plans

Minerals & Waste Core Strategy Consultation,

I have read and understood the Gardner Representation produced by Gardner Planning on behalf of OXAGE and fully support the points made.

The government guidelines (the NPPF) advise using a historical 10-year average of minerals sales when calculating the LAA. Most neighbouring counties use this or very similar methodology. The original LAA proposed by campaign groups from across the county (the Hives report, which used the 10-year average as its basis) was accepted by OCC in the summer of 2014. This would have meant that there would be no need for new gravel extraction sites in the county for many years.

What is driving the sudden deviation from this government guideline?

I find it objectionable that OCC abandoned the 10-year average methodology when it hired its own new set of consultants who produced a much higher LAA that is completely out of step with the 10-year average.

I feel a full disclosure of why the change in calculation methodology was initiated and who benefits from this new inflated LAA is required. At the moment I find the actions of OCC at least questionable and at the worst suspicious.

Kind regards,

Rob McMahon