

Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework

Changes to the Preferred Options Core Strategy - November 2007

Summary:

This Strategy sets out the County Council's broad proposals for the minerals and waste management developments that will be needed in Cumbria by 2020. These proposals are coupled with policies about the amounts of waste that will need to be managed, the amounts of minerals that will need to be dug and for mitigating impacts on climate change. It does not identify sites; they will be in the Site Allocations Policies that will be published for consultation next year.

The greatest challenges are seen to be in making sure that the new waste management facilities can be built, that are necessary to increase recycling and composting and reduce the amounts of waste that are landfilled.

It is estimated there is a need for eleven sites of around 2 hectare for waste treatment facilities and for an additional 2 million cubic metres of landfill space. It is considered that we should also plan for two "Energy from Waste" plants although, at the present time, there are doubts about whether they will be needed. The eleven sites include two Mechanical and Biological Treatment plants and three Transfer Stations that are needed for the wastes collected by dustbin lorries. Broad locations are identified for these.

The Strategy includes policies for storing and disposing of radioactive wastes.

For minerals, there are policies for gypsum, brickmaking, industrial limestone, building stones and coal bed methane. The Strategy does not propose any further provision, at this time, for crushed rock quarries. Some quarries produce high skid resistance roadstones and additional provision will be needed for these before 2020. Further sites for sand and gravel quarrying will be needed within the next three or four years. These will be identified next year in the Site Allocations Policies consultation.

Please use the response form for your comments on the Core Strategy policies and proposals. They can be submitted by email to mwdf@cumbriacc.gov.uk or sent by post to the Head of Environment, County Offices, Kendal LA9 4RQ. You can also comment on-line, via the County Council website www.cumbria.gov.uk.

All documents are available in paper form, on a CD Rom, and on the website. Ring 01539 773403 to ask for copies to be posted or emailed to you. The hotline for further information is 01539 773548.

Your comments will be considered carefully, and a final "Core Strategy" document will be prepared by February 2008. Further consultations on this, and the Generic Development Control Policies, are scheduled for March/April/May 2008.

Comments need to be received by 14th December 2007.