

**Rutland County Council
Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Scoping Document: Minerals Authority Contract Evidence Panel

1. Topic

- 1.1 Minerals Contract with North Northamptonshire District Council

2. Purpose

- 2.1 With the growing level of quarrying activity within Rutland it is important that these operations are carefully monitored and within the terms of the contract.
- 2.2 Understand any current or future constraints to the contract and its operation such as specialist staffing.

3. Members (Identify Chairperson)

Councillor Gordon Brown

4. Portfolio holders

Various – Councillor Powell

5. Officers

Roger Ranson, Planning Policy and Housing Manager

6. Rationale

- 6.1 **What does the Review hope to achieve?**
To identify if North Northamptonshire DC are operating the contract in line with the agreed terms and RCC are seeing value for this agreement.
- 6.2 **What is the community importance and benefit?**
To ensure the safety and wellbeing of residents in proximity to quarrying operations.
- 6.3 **How does it fit in with the Council's corporate priorities/scrutiny priorities?**
The work of this group will meet the corporate priorities:
1. A Special Place
 2. Sustainable Lives
 3. Healthy and Well
 4. A county for everyone – ensuring everyone has the same opportunity.
 5. A modern and effective Council - by improving the way we work to deliver effective and efficient services not just for today but for the future.
- 6.4 **What opportunities are there to make a distinctive impact?**
If the contract is not delivering the protection it was set up to achieve, RCC can take immediate action against NNDC and/or review who operates the contract going forward.

7. Background

7.1 Is the review looking at existing contract?

The review will consider existing minerals contract and make recommendations based on the findings of the report.

7.2 Has the need for the review come about from an issue arising from national or local events?

With the increase in quarrying and new quarry application, it is clear we need robust controls to protect our residents from dust, noise and other matters relating to quarry operations.

7.3 Are there any relevant community views to refer to? (e.g. previous consultations)

There is the Rutland Quarry Forum, as well as liaison groups with Ketton and Barrowden / Wakerley. In addition there has been extensive dialogue with Greetham over the MGL quarry extension and subsequent approval and conditions that need to be monitored.

8. Issues to be Considered

- 8.1 The KPIs laid out in the contract.
- 8.2 Report against KPIs
- 8.3 The ability and staffing of NNDC to carry out the terms of the contract
- 8.4 Recommendations on the future operation of this contract
- 8.5 How can the various resident and parish groups be reassured that the contract is providing the protection they demand
- 8.6 What long term goals does RCC for minerals control as the number of quarries increase within and bordering the council
- 8.7 What evidence do we have that operators are being held accountable for their actions and how is this achieved?
- 8.8 What incidents have been reported since the inception of the contract and what measures have been taken?
- 8.9 What site visits have been carried out and what were the outcomes? How is this information reported and acted upon?
- 8.10 With the learnings from the Greetham application, what aspects of the conditions can be utilised on other sites?
- 8.11 Who at RCC is accountable for the contract?
- 8.12 We would hope Roger Ransom, Ingrid Holey, the Portfolio Holder and a representative of NNDC would attend the relevant report scrutiny meeting.

9. Timetable

- 9.1 **Key deadlines** – As per scrutiny meeting schedule

10. Methodology/Approach

- 10.1 A written report to be supplied in advance to members of the committee to be presented at the relevant scrutiny meeting with the representatives as previously mentioned.