

Main Matter 4: Restoration and Aftercare

Key Issue: Whether the financial provision to guarantee restoration (Policy 12) is compatible with government advice.

Question

Is the last sentence of MPG7 para 86 reflected accurately in Policy 12 (3)?

1. The third bullet point of Policy 12, referring to financial provision has been submitted as a proposed additional minor change to the Plan and should have been removed prior to submission of the Minerals Plan in accordance with the text set out in Paragraph 7.28. The policy should read as set out below and has been recorded as proposed additional minor change PAMC/AGMA/5:

Policy 12: Restoration and Aftercare

Applications for minerals extraction will be permitted where they are accompanied by appropriate proposals for site restoration and aftercare. This should include all of the following:

1. Details of the final restoration scheme and proposed future land use;
2. Details of timescales for completion of restoration including details of completion of individual phases of restoration where a progressive restoration scheme is proposed;
- ~~2. Details of financial provision to be put in place to guarantee the restoration of the site;~~
3. Details of aftercare arrangements that are to be put in place to ensure the maintenance and management of the site once restoration is complete;
4. Details of community liaison measures to be put in place during the operation of the site including mineral extraction, restoration and final land use.

In defining the future land use for the site, restoration should be geared towards improvement of final land use and should:

- i. Demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority that the proposal is in accordance with the Key Planning and Environmental Criteria in Policy 1;

- ii. Reflect the requirements of the relevant Development Plan;
- iii. Take account of the pre-working character of the site and its landscape setting where appropriate;
- iv. Where land is to be restored for agricultural or forestry, use appropriate restoration techniques to ensure that the land is capable of supporting such uses in the long term;
- v. Provide for the enhancement of the quality of the landscape, biodiversity assets, local environment, European sites, ecological value of the site or the setting of historic assets to the benefit to the local or wider community.