

Planning Committee

Wednesday 07 March 2018

Late Observations Schedule

Agenda Items

4 House of Commons Select Committee

As previously advised to Members, on 5 March 2017, Government published a draft revised National Planning Policy Framework for consultation. Paragraphs 204-205 provide guidance to Minerals Planning Authorities on the matters that their planning policies should address and matters which should be taken into consideration in the determination of planning applications.

204. Minerals planning authorities should:

- a) recognise the benefits of on-shore oil and gas development, including unconventional hydrocarbons, for the security of energy supplies and supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy; and put in place policies to facilitate their exploration and extraction;
- b) when planning for on-shore oil and gas development, clearly distinguish between, and plan positively for, the three phases of development (exploration, appraisal and production);
- c) encourage underground gas and carbon storage and associated infrastructure if local geological circumstances indicate its feasibility;
- d) indicate any areas where coal extraction and the disposal of colliery spoil may be acceptable;
- e) encourage the capture and use of methane from coal mines in active and abandoned coalfield areas; and
- f) provide for coal producers to extract separately, and if necessary stockpile, fireclay so that it remains available for use.

205. When determining planning applications, minerals planning authorities should ensure that the integrity and safety of underground exploration, extraction and storage operations and facilities are appropriate, taking into account the maintenance of gas pressure, prevention of leakage of gas and the avoidance of pollution.

5 Regeneration Framework

Revised Recommendation

As reflected in the report, the Regeneration Framework is a “living document” that is constantly changing as new public realm schemes are developed in conjunction with local communities. In order to reflect this, it is considered that Recommendation 3 of the report should be amended to read:

3. That the Regeneration Framework 2016-2032, including any amendments that reflect the latest schemes that are at an advanced stage of discussion with Town & Parish Councils and other community groups, be the subject of a public consultation exercise carried out in accordance with the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement,