

Wiltshire Council's guide to making comments on the Wiltshire and Swindon Minerals Site Allocations DPD

If you have a comment to make about the Minerals Site Allocations plan, it is important that we hear from you. To those not familiar with the planning system the representations form can appear complicated and technical in places, so we have prepared this guide to provide an additional explanation of the layout and terms used.

If you are not able to use the form but would like to comment, you can write to the council at the following address, setting out your comments in a letter or email - **Economy and Enterprise, Wiltshire Council, Bythesea Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, BA14 8JD**; email **mineralsandwastepolicy@wiltshire.gov.uk**

It is important to note that your comments will still be sent to the Planning Inspector for consideration. You can also contact the staff in the spatial planning team, who will be more than happy to help, on **01225 713223**

Part A - Personal details

Please fill out as many parts of this section of the form as you can. We need this information to ensure that we can keep you informed about the next stages in the plan's preparation. When the plan is examined, the government-appointed Inspector may also wish to ask you for more information relating to your comments, or invite you to attend hearing sessions - where you will be given the opportunity to put your views to the Inspector and contribute to the discussion on the issues that you have raised.

Part B - Your representations

'To which part of the document does your representation relate?'

It is important that both we and the Planning Inspector can fully take into consideration your comments on the Minerals Site Allocations plan. For this reason it would be very helpful to us if you could, as a minimum, provide details of the part of the document you are commenting on, such as the page or paragraph number for example.

'Do you consider the DPD is: (i) Legally compliant'

The form asks if you consider the plan to be legally compliant. This is essentially asking whether or not the plan has been prepared in line with the plan making regulations set out by government ([please see the technical guidance for more details about the regulations](#)). If the plan has not been prepared in line with the regulations, then the council will have to withdraw the plan and carry out some additional work to ensure the regulations have been met.

‘Do you consider the DPD is: (ii) sound’

The form also asks whether you consider the document to be ‘sound’ on three key points. The first point asks whether or not the policies and site allocations in the plan are **justified**, in other words, does the council’s interpretation of the evidence justify the proposals set out in the plan.

The second point asks about the **effectiveness** of the plan – here you may wish to consider whether the policies and site allocations in the plan can actually be delivered and are able to respond to change.

The third point refers to **consistency with national policy**. There are a series of statements and guidance issued by central government related to planning which form the basis of the national planning policies. The council’s plan has to be in line with these policies. These policies can be found on the Department of Communities and Local Government website (www.communities.gov.uk/planningpolicy/).

Your comments

It is important that the council and the Planning Inspector fully understand your comments, particularly where you think changes need to be made to make the plan ‘sound’. If you feel that the plan has not been prepared in line with regulations, or is not sound (as discussed above), then you can use the first box to explain why and the second box to set out what you think needs to be changed to make the plan ‘sound’ or meet the planning regulations. You can also use this part of the form if you want to support the plan.