

Matter 4 - Protecting Mineral Resources, Infrastructure and facilities, and transport**Policy CSM 5: Land-won Mineral Safeguarding**

1. The site of the Medway Cement Works at Holborough is subject to an implemented planning permission TM/98/785¹. The site includes land within the administrative areas of Tonbridge and Malling Council, for which Kent County Council is the minerals authority, and Medway Council which is a unitary authority and is also therefore the minerals authority.
2. The site falls within the control of Tarmac Cement and Lime Limited ('Tarmac') and Lafarge UK Holdings Limited ('Lafarge').
3. The Council struck out Policy CSM 3 (which safeguards the Medway Cement Works as a strategic site for minerals) as part of the Full Review of the adopted Kent Minerals Local Plan. We support the Council's approach and consider the principle to be sound.
4. Tarmac and Lafarge continually review their cement manufacturing capacity and will periodically consider whether alternative development prospects exist for permitted or operational sites. Whilst alternative uses are being considered, that should not be interpreted to preclude the construction of a new cement works at Holborough.
5. Should any alternative prospects be promoted via a planning application, the landowners accept that such proposals would need to be assessed against Policies DM 7 and DM 8 of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan. However, the landowners do not consider that Policy CSM 5 should apply, as is currently set out in the Plan.

Q40. Do these policies provide sufficient guidance to indicate how safeguarding of minerals and minerals infrastructure is to be considered in non-minerals development proposals?

6. The proposed changes to Policy CSM 5 include the striking out of wording which relates to now deleted Policy CSM 3. We support that change and consider it sound and consistent.
7. However, the additional wording inserted at paragraph 5.2.37 in lieu of Policy CSM 3 continues to make reference to Policy CSM 5. We do not consider that necessary, nor is it appropriate or consistent.
8. A modification to the proposed wording of paragraph 5.2.37 which removes reference to Policy CSM 5 (but which retains references to Policies DM 7 and DM 8) would address this issue and ensure that the Plan is sound. We anticipate that such a change could be made by means of a Minor Amendment. We would welcome the opportunity to address this matter before the Hearing.

¹ Permission TM/98/785 is the most pertinent, however other permissions also apply to other related and implemented development.