



# Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Authority Monitoring Report 2019-20

December 2020



# Table of Contents

<b>1. INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>3</b>
BACKGROUND TO THE MINERALS PLAN .....	4
<b>2. CORE OUTPUT INDICATORS THROUGH THE MINERALS PLAN</b> .....	<b>5</b>
INDICATOR M1 .....	5
INDICATOR M2 .....	8
<b>3. MINERALS PLAN POLICIES REVIEW</b> .....	<b>10</b>
POLICY 1: THE PRESUMPTION IN FAVOUR OF SUSTAINABLE MINERALS DEVELOPMENT .....	10
POLICY 2: KEY PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRITERIA .....	10
POLICY 3: PRIMARY EXTRACTION OF AGGREGATE MINERALS (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVES 1 & 4i).....	11
POLICY 4: NATURAL BUILDING STONE (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVES 1 & 4ii).....	11
POLICY 5: PRIMARY EXTRACTION OF NON-AGGREGATE MINERALS (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVES 1 & 4ii) .....	12
POLICY 6: UNCONVENTIONAL GAS RESOURCES (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVES 1 & 5) .....	13
POLICY 7: PEAT (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVE 1).....	13
POLICY 8: MINERAL SAFEGUARDING AREAS (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVE 1, 2 AND 3) .....	13
POLICY 9: SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT OF MINERALS (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVE 3) .....	14
POLICY 10: REWORKING OF COLLIERY SPOIL TIPS (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVES 1&5).....	15
POLICY 11: PROTECTING EXISTING MINERAL SITES/INFRASTRUCTURE (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVES 1, 2, 4 & 5) .....	15
POLICY 12: PROTECTING QUARRIES IMPORTANT FOR MAINTAINING HISTORIC BUILDINGS (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVES 1, 2, 4 & 5).....	15
POLICY 13: RESTORATION AND AFTERCARE (IMPLEMENTS OBJECTIVE 1) .....	16
<b>4. PETROLEUM EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT LICENCE (PEDL) UPDATE</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>5. ACTIONS</b> .....	<b>17</b>

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Halton, and Warrington aggregate land-won sand and gravel landbank as at 31st December 2018 .....	<b>5</b>
Table 2: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Halton, and Warrington aggregate crushed rock landbank as at 31st December 2018 .....	<b>6</b>
Table 3: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate crushed rock sales 2008-2018 .....	<b>8</b>
Table 4: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate crushed rock reserves 2008-2018.....	<b>8</b>
Table 5: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate sand and gravel sales 2008-2018 .....	<b>8</b>
Table 6: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate sand and gravel reserves 2008-2018.....	<b>8</b>
Table 7: Total Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste Handled in Greater Manchester .....	<b>9</b>

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. This is the sixth Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) collating information to allow for the assessment of the performance of planning policies in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Plan (Minerals Plan), which was adopted on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2013.
- 1.2. This AMR covers the 12-month period from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.
- 1.3. The Minerals Plan forms part of the statutory development plan for the following Authorities: Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council; Bury Metropolitan Borough Council; Manchester City Council; Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council; Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council; Salford City Council; Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council; Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council; Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council; and Wigan Metropolitan Borough Council. This AMR reports on behalf of the ten authorities.
- 1.4. Within Greater Manchester (GM) there is a supply of low-quality aggregate but a limited supply of the type of high-quality aggregates that are needed to ensure continued economic expansion of GM. Therefore, GM relies heavily on imports from Mineral Planning Authorities (MPAs) outside of the plan area to meet its high-quality aggregate needs.
- 1.5. Just one quarry in GM produces brick clay for use in engineering and facing bricks (Harwood Quarry, Bolton). There is currently a brickworks operated by Wienerberger in Denton, Tameside which relies on 50% imported clay from Mouselow Quarry in Glossop, Derbyshire, and 50% clay supplied from Harwood Quarry. An application for an extension to the Mouselow site to extract 850,000 tonnes was approved on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2019. That said, as reserves at Harwood are due to be depleted by 2026, there is still not likely to be enough brick clay to guarantee the 25-year supply required by National Planning Policy Framework. This is discussed later in the report.
- 1.6. Considering the above, GM will continue to work closely with the MPAs which export material to the area to ensure that material can continue to be sourced to meet its ongoing needs in a sustainable manner throughout the plan period. Furthermore, the use of recycled aggregates and secondary mineral products will be encouraged wherever possible to reduce the need for imports and promote sustainable use of raw materials.

## **Background to the Minerals Plan**

- 1.7. The Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) agreed to produce a Joint Minerals Plan in 2009. AGMA consists of all ten Greater Manchester Authorities. The Minerals Plan forms part of each Authority's statutory development plan and runs from 2012 to 2027. It was prepared on behalf of the ten Greater Manchester Authorities by Urban Vision's Minerals and Waste Planning Unit.
- 1.8. The purpose of the Minerals Plan is to set out a minerals planning strategy up to 2027 to deliver a steady and sustainable supply of minerals, safeguard mineral resources, enable Greater Manchester to contribute to its sub-regional apportionment of aggregates and facilitate greater use of recycled aggregates and secondary mineral products. The Minerals Plan includes a set of plans identifying the locations of Mineral Safeguarding Areas within each of the ten Local Planning Authorities. It also includes a set of development management policies which will assist in the consideration of minerals planning applications.
- 1.9. This AMR monitors the policies in the Minerals Plan to determine the extent to which they are being effectively implemented.
- 1.10. Paragraph 062 Reference ID 61-062-20190315 of the National Planning Practice Guidance states that:

*'To be effective plans need to be kept up-to-date. The National Planning Policy Framework states policies in local plans and spatial development strategies, should be reviewed to assess whether they need updating at least once every 5 years, and should then be updated as necessary.'*
- 1.11. In 2018, work was undertaken to produce a review of the Minerals Plan in line with the guidance above. However, this review has not yet been published for examination, and has therefore not been adopted. As a result, this AMR will assess the effectiveness of the policies against the original targets detailed in the adopted 2013 Minerals Plan. That said, the work undertaken in producing the review has highlighted the need to update parts of the Minerals Plan and this is picked up throughout this AMR.
- 1.12. It should be noted this iteration of the Minerals AMR will not include an update to the land won reserves and sales figures for the Greater Manchester for the 2019-2020 period. This is due to the ongoing Aggregate Minerals Survey 2020 (AMS 2020) being



undertaken by the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), which is collecting that data nationally. The results of the AMS 2020 are expected to be published in Spring 2021 and an addendum to this Minerals AMR will be produced once those figures have been made available.

## **2. Core Output Indicators through the Minerals Plan**

- 2.1. This data is measured on a level which includes all ten Greater Manchester Authorities, the five Merseyside Authorities plus Halton and the local authority of Warrington. For reasons of commercial confidentiality, it is necessary to combine the data from these 17 areas.

### **Indicator M1**

- 2.2. This measures production of primary land won aggregates by mineral planning authority against the North West Aggregate Working Party (NW AWP) apportionments. This links with Objective 4i and Policies 2 & 3 of the Minerals Plan.
- 2.3. For the reasons mentioned previously in paragraph 1.12, the land won aggregate figures in this section remain the same as in the previous iteration of the Minerals AMR and will be updated as soon as the updated figures become available.

### *Sand and gravel*

- 2.4. It was not possible to disclose the land won reserves figure for sand and gravel for 2018 due to reasons of confidentiality as, within the monitoring period, there was only one sand and gravel quarry in the Greater Manchester sub-region with permitted reserves contributing to the landbank. However, it was possible to provide a 3-year average reserve figure for 2016, 2017 and 2018, and this was used in the landbank calculations. At present, there are insufficient reserves of sand and gravel to meet the current apportionment.
- 2.5. The sand and gravel landbank is below the 7-year minimum requirement as laid out in paragraph 207(f) of the revised NPPF (2019) and will be fully depleted during the Plan period unless additional proposals for minerals extraction come forward and planning permissions are granted for the release of additional reserves.

**Table 1: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Halton, and Warrington aggregate land-won sand and gravel landbank as at 31st December 2018**

	<b>Landbank as at 31.12.2017</b>	<b>Permitted Reserves at 31/12/18 (million tonnes)</b>	<b>Annual apportionment requirement 2005-2020</b>	<b>Landbank as at 31.12.2018 (based on annual apportionment)</b>
<b>Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington</b>	below 7 years	1.2mt	0.3mt	4 years

- 2.6. Again, to protect confidential figures for sales of land won sand and gravel, a 3-year average sales figure for 2016, 2017 and 2018 was used. Sales averaged out at 0.26mt, slightly above the ten-year average of 0.25mt. Although there has been a slight upturn in recent years, sales continue to be below the apportionment and levels of future provision will be addressed through the Local Aggregates Assessment.
- 2.7. Data from the 4-yearly Mineral Surveys conducted by British Geological Survey (BGS) and the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), indicates that the sub-region continues to rely heavily on imported aggregates, with 76% of sand and gravel consumed in 2009 originating from outside the sub-region, either from elsewhere in the North West or beyond; this figure remained the same in the 2014 Survey. As mentioned previously, an updated survey is currently being carried out by MHCLG and will be based upon on sales and reserves reported for the 2019 calendar year. The Aggregate Mineral Survey will provide updated information on movements of aggregates and will identify if the reliance on imports has increased due to the lack of local provision.

*Crushed rock*

- 2.8. Reserves of crushed rock are depleting year on year and additional permissions for its extraction will be required in the medium to long term. The crushed rock landbank is, however, currently above the 10-year minimum requirement as laid out in the revised NPPF (2019).

**Table 2: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Halton and Warrington aggregate crushed rock landbank as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018**

	<b>Permitted Reserves at 31/12/18 (million tonnes)</b>	<b>Annual apportionment requirement 2005-2020</b>	<b>Landbank as at 31.12.2018 (based on annual apportionment)</b>
<b>Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington</b>	17.5mt	0.85mt	29.2 years

- 2.9. Table 3 below shows that sales of crushed rock in 2018 were 0.65mt, above the ten-year average of 0.6mt but below the three-year average of 0.77mt. The sub-region is heavily reliant on imported high quality crushed rock, as the material extracted within the sub-region is generally of a poor quality. The sub-region imported 92% of crushed rock consumed in 2009, this increased to 93% for 2014.
- 2.10. Communication and co-operation with those authorities that export primary aggregates into the sub-region will continue to be important. Paragraph 27 of the revised National Planning Policy Framework (2019) states that to demonstrate effective and on-going joint working, strategic plan-making authorities should prepare and maintain one or more Statements of Common Ground, documenting the identified cross-boundary matters, and setting out the progress in co-operating to address these issues.
- 2.11. Local Aggregate Assessments had not been fully introduced when the Minerals Plan was written and so the plan does not reflect the requirement to consider imports and exports of materials. The plan is therefore currently lacking in detail of the likely scale of material required to meet expected demand over the plan period and from where this will be sourced.
- 2.12. As part of the work undertaken in 2018 to review of the Minerals Plan, operators with existing operational quarries in the North West were contacted to ascertain if there was any interest in developing new sites, both crushed rock and sand & gravel, for mineral extraction or extensions to existing sites within Greater Manchester in the future. Two operators responded to state that they would be interested, should they be able to find suitable sites, and another with an existing site in the area stated that they would be interested in extending that site. A further operator met with a member of the Minerals and Waste Planning Unit and stated that they were in negotiations with landowners in relation to three potential sites within GM for future mineral extraction.

## Indicator M2

- 2.13. This indicator measures production of secondary and recycled aggregates by mineral planning authority. This links with Objective 4iii of the Minerals Plan. Current data is considered unreliable. Estimates are made using information from primary aggregate reserves and sales to identify any trends which may link to the production of secondary and recycled aggregates. Table 3 and 5 indicate a general downward trend in sales of aggregate since 2007, whilst reserves of crushed rock showed a slight increase up to 2014 but a small decrease year on year from that point on.
- 2.14. That said, an application was received in 2018 for the extension of time to Buckton Vale Quarry up to 2042. This application was approved in December 2020 and will be reported in the next iteration of the Minerals AMR.
- 2.15. Sand and gravel reserves have tended to fall and are currently below the required 7 years landbank and are likely to remain that way. The general fall in sales and reserves of crushed rock may indicate an increased use of secondary and recycled aggregate in the region in place of local primary aggregates. Reserves of sand and gravel have been depleted as reserves at Morleys Quarry have been worked out.

**Table 3: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate crushed rock sales 2008-2018**

Aggregate Crushed Rock Sales (million tonnes)											
Monitoring period	AM 08	AM 09	AM 10	AM 11	AM 12	AM 13	AM 14	AM 15	AM 16	AM 17	AM 18
Sandstone	0.69	0.30	0.29	0.36	0.81	0.42	0.69	0.79	0.87	0.78	0.65

**Table 4: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate crushed rock reserves 2008-2018**

Aggregate Crushed Rock Reserves (million tonnes)											
Monitoring period	AM 08	AM 09	AM 10	AM 11	AM 12	AM 13	AM 14	AM 15	AM 16	AM 17	AM 18
Sandstone	17.36	17.23	17.01	20.26	20.06	20.3	21.18	20.43	19.59	18.37	17.5



Table 5: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate sand and gravel sales 2008-2018

Aggregate Sand and Gravel Sales (million tonnes)											
Monitoring period	AM 08	AM 09	AM 10	AM 11	AM 12	AM 13	AM 14	AM 15	AM 16	AM 17	AM 18
Land-won	0.44	0.37	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.26	0.31	0.26*	0.26*	0.26*
Marine dredged	0.41	0.30	0.26	0.24	0.21	0.30	0.25	0.26	c.	c.	c.
Total sales	0.85	0.67	0.48	0.48	0.45	0.54	0.51	0.57	0.39	0.36	0.26

\*average over previous three years

Table 6: Greater Manchester, Merseyside and Warrington aggregate sand and gravel reserves 2008-2018

Aggregate Sand and Gravel Reserves (million tonnes)											
Monitoring period	AM 08	AM 09	AM 10	AM 11	AM 12	AM 13	AM 14	AM 15	AM 16	AM 17	AM 18
Land-won	5.8	6.1	4.85	4.76	4.52	4.27	3.86	3.70	4.0*	4.0*	4.0*
Total reserves	5.8	6.1	4.85	4.76	4.52	4.27	3.86	3.70	4.0*	4.0*	4.0*

\*average over previous three years

- 2.16. A significant proportion of the wastes recycled for aggregate use are recycled at demolition/construction sites using mobile processing plants and indeed often reused on-site. Estimates of Construction, Demolition and Excavation (CD&E) waste which can be used as recycled aggregates can be obtained from the Environment Agency's Waste Data Interrogator. However, this data does not cover materials managed at exempt sites or material which is managed on site and therefore does not enter the waste stream, therefore this can only provide an estimate of recycled aggregates. Each year the Environment Agency releases data for the previous year. The current data set for reporting is for calendar year 2019.
- 2.17. The Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) for 2019 shows that in Greater Manchester the amount of CD&E waste received in the area decreased from 3.232mt in 2018 to 2.694mt in 2019. By comparison, the amount of CD&E waste removed from Greater Manchester in 2019 was 1.088mt which indicates that Greater Manchester processes more CD&E waste than it produces.

Table 7: Total Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste Received in Greater Manchester

Construction, Demolition and Excavation waste (million tonnes) *							
Monitoring Period	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total C&D waste	2.731	2.887	2.868	2.863	3.152	3.232	2.694

\*WDI 2013 to 2019

### 3. Minerals Plan Policies Review

#### Policy 1: The Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Minerals Development

- 3.1. This policy states that positive consideration will be given to minerals development which accords with the policies set out in the Minerals Plan, and with all other relevant local plan policies, and that such development will be permitted unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of mineral related development permitted in line with presumption in favour of sustainable development.	100%

- 3.2. No applications were permitted in the 2019/20 monitoring period for minerals development. However, there is currently a Section 73 application pending consideration at Morleys Quarry, Wigan, to vary some of the planning conditions relating to the 2008 approval to extend the winning of clay and sand until 2024.

#### Policy 2: Key Planning and Environmental Criteria

- 3.3. This policy states that minerals development will be permitted where any adverse impacts on a list of criteria are avoided or can be appropriately mitigated. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of mineral development planning applications permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.	100%

- 3.4. As above, no applications were permitted during the monitoring period.

**Policy 3: Primary Extraction of Aggregate Minerals (implements objectives 1 & 4i)**

3.5. This policy states the conditions under which applications for extraction/and or processing of sand, gravel or sandstone/gritstone, both within and out with the Areas of Search for each mineral, will be permitted. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of applications for primary extraction of aggregate minerals permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.	100%

3.6. There were no relevant planning applications for mineral extraction permitted during the monitoring period, so this target is not applicable.

**Policy 4: Natural Building Stone (implements objectives 1 & 4ii)**

3.7. This policy states the conditions under which proposals for the working of natural building stone will be supported and what evidence must be provided to support the proposals. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of natural building stone excavation permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.	100%

3.8. There were no relevant planning applications for mineral extraction permitted during the monitoring period, so this target is not applicable.

3.9. Paragraph 16, Ref ID: 27-016-20140306 of the updated National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) states:

*“Mineral planning authorities should recognise that, compared to other types of mineral extraction, most building stone quarries are small-scale and have a far lower rate of extraction when compared to other quarries. This means that their local environmental impacts may be significantly less. Such quarries often continue in operation for a very long period and may be worked intermittently but intensively (“campaign working”), involving stockpiling of stone.”*

3.10. Neither Policy 4 nor its supporting text in paragraphs 3.27 to 3.32 of the Minerals Plan recognise the low extraction rates and long operating periods of such quarries and so may need to be updated to comply with the NPPG.

**Policy 5: Primary Extraction of Non-Aggregate Minerals (implements objectives 1 & 4ii)**

3.11. This policy states the conditions under which proposals for the development of non-aggregate minerals will be permitted. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of applications for primary extraction of non-aggregate minerals permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.	100%

3.12. There were no relevant planning applications for mineral extraction permitted during the monitoring period and so this target is not applicable.

3.13. As a requirement of national planning policy, minerals planning authorities need to be able to demonstrate a 25-year supply of brick clay reserves. Reserves at Harwood Quarry are due to be depleted towards 2026 and so the sub-region is falling short of this target. Weinberger’s Denton Brickworks Factory in Manchester sources 50% of its brick clay from Harwood Quarry and 50% from a quarry in Derbyshire. The Brickworks operator has previously requested assistance in identifying new potential sites for clay extraction within the sub-region. This could be achieved through a review of the Minerals Plan to identify any potential suitable sites with the assistance of the minerals industry. As part of the work previously undertaken for the review of the Minerals Plan, discussions have taken place with operators within the region, a number of which have indicated an interest in seeking to provide additional reserves of brick clay to continue to support the Brickworks, proposals for which could be delivered through the review of the Minerals Plan. The situation remains the same now as it was in 2017, although this issue has been highlighted in a Statement of Common Ground with Derbyshire County Council.

3.14. It may be necessary to update Policy 5 and/or its supporting text to reflect the guidance outlined in the revised NPPG, with reference to the need to identify the remaining stocks of permitted reserves and how these may act as a strong indicator of an urgent need.

**Policy 6: Unconventional Gas Resources (implements objectives 1 & 5)**

3.15. This policy states the conditions under which applications for exploration and appraisal, and production wells for unconventional gas resources will be permitted. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of unconventional gas resources developments permitted compliant with requirements of the policy	100%

3.16. There were no relevant applications for unconventional gas resources developments permitted during the monitoring period.

3.17. In order to comply with the NPPF, Policy 6 should be updated to distinguish between the three phases of development, rather than group them together with the same assessment criteria.

**Policy 7: Peat (implements objective 1)**

3.18. This policy states the conditions under which applications for peat extraction will be granted. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of peat extraction developments permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.	100%

3.19. There were no applications for peat extraction developments permitted during the monitoring period.

**Policy 8: Mineral Safeguarding Areas (implements objective 1, 2 and 3)**

3.20. This policy states that all non-mineral development proposals within the Mineral Safeguarding Area should extract any viable mineral resources present in advance of construction. The policy also states the requirements for proposals for non-mineral development within the Mineral Safeguarding Areas that do not allow for the prior extraction of minerals. It is also stated that all non-mineral development proposals outside the Mineral Safeguarding Areas, where the potential for prior extraction to take place has been identified, should seek to extract any viable mineral resources present in advance of construction. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:



Indicator	Target
% of non-mineral development permitted within the MSA (falling within the policy thresholds) which do not needlessly sterilise mineral resources.	100%

3.21. There have been no non-mineral developments permitted within the MSA that would needlessly sterilise mineral resources. There were a large amount of smaller applications that came forward within Mineral Safeguarding Areas of GM. However, by reason of their approval, it was considered that none of the permitted non-mineral development was contrary to Policy 8. For reference purposes, the following table includes some illustrative examples of larger applications that came forward within the 2018-2019 monitoring period which have yet to be determined:

Application No.	Location	Proposal	Decision
04766/18	Land west of Wingates industrial estate Chorley Road, Westhoughton, Bolton, BL5 3LY	Outline application for strategic employment development for industrial (class b1c/b2), storage and distribution (class b8) and/or research and development (class b1b) uses each with ancillary office space (class b1a) parking and associated facilities, (class d1) ancillary food and drink (class 3/a4/a5)	Committee in October 2019 but was deferred. Approved in January 2020 but called in by SoS. Still awaiting final decision.

### **Policy 9: Sustainable Transport of Minerals (implements objective 3)**

3.22. This policy states that developers will be encouraged to transport minerals via the most sustainable transport mode, wherever practicable, and allows for transport of minerals by road where the use of more sustainable transport is not practicable, and the existing highway network is able to accommodate traffic generated by the proposal. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of mineral development permitted utilising most sustainable transport modes in compliance with the policies of the Minerals Plan.	100%

3.23. No new site permissions were granted for minerals extraction.

**Policy 10: Reworking of Colliery Spoil Tips (implements objectives 1&5)**

3.24. This policy states the conditions under which applications for the reworking of colliery spoil tips will be permitted. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Target	Variance
% of applications for reworking colliery spoil tips permitted compliant with the requirements of the policy.	100%

3.25. There were no applications for reworking colliery spoil tips permitted during the monitoring period.

**Policy 11: Protecting Existing Mineral Sites/Infrastructure (implements objectives 1, 2, 4 & 5)**

3.26. This policy protects existing mineral sites and infrastructure from new development and states the conditions under which development likely to have an unacceptable impact on mineral sites and infrastructure will be permitted. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of non-mineral related development permitted within a distance that could affect existing mineral sites/infrastructure, in the absence of justification provided by the developer as set out within the policy.	100%

3.27. No applications were permitted that could affect existing mineral sites/infrastructure, in the absence of justification provided by the developer as set out within the policy.

**Policy 12: Protecting quarries important for maintaining historic buildings (implements objectives 1, 2, 4 & 5)**

This policy states that the impact upon quarries important for maintaining historic buildings will be considered and states the conditions under which development likely to have an unacceptable impact on the future use of a quarry will be permitted. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of mineral related development permitted in line with the restoration and aftercare requirements.	100%

3.28. There were no relevant planning applications permitted during the monitoring period.

**Policy 13: Restoration and aftercare (implements objective 1)**

3.29. This policy states that applications for minerals extraction will be permitted where they are accompanied by appropriate proposals for site restoration and aftercare. The indicator and target for the monitoring of this policy is:

Indicator	Target
% of mineral related development permitted in line with the restoration and aftercare requirements.	100%

3.30. During the monitoring period, no new applications were determined for the extraction of aggregates.

**4. Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence (PEDL) update**

4.1. On the 18th August 2015, the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA) and Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) published a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the 14th Onshore Oil and Gas Licensing Round. The Oil and Gas Authority announced on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 that all 159 onshore blocks under the 14<sup>th</sup> Onshore Oil and Gas Licensing Round are being formally offered to successful applicants.

4.2. Of those blocks formally offered, 7 blocks fall wholly or partially within Greater Manchester;

1. Bolton Ref SD6, Operator: Osprey
2. Bolton & Bury Ref SD71, Operator: Hutton
3. Bury & Rochdale Ref SD81, Operator: Hutton
4. Wigan, SD50, Operator: Aurora
5. Bolton & Wigan Ref SD60d, Operator: Hutton
6. Bolton & Salford, SD70, Operator: Hutton
7. Trafford & Manchester, SJ78, Operator: INEOS

- 4.3. There is also an existing and retained PEDL in place (Ref PEDL 193; Operator IGAS) partly in Salford/Trafford/Manchester City. Igas run the Davyhulme site where permission was granted for 25 years in 2015 but at which there has not yet been any activity. PEDL193 also includes Ineos' Barton Moss site which has a well and side-track drilled, but work is currently suspended.
- 4.4. The Minerals and Waste Planning Unit has previously invited industry representatives to visit the team to discuss their intentions for petroleum exploration within Greater Manchester. Only one representative accepted the invitation and met with the Unit. It is assumed that the other license holders have no plans to explore potential resources within the sub-region in the short term.
- 4.5. The Department for Energy and Climate Change Onshore Oil and Gas interactive map shows the released licence areas and can be accessed at:  
<https://deccedu.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=29c31fa4b00248418e545d222e57ddaa>

## 5. Actions

- 5.1. Over the monitoring period the targets for all policies have either been met or no applications have been approved which would cover said policies. As mentioned in paragraph 1.1, a 5-year review of the Minerals Plan was due to be published during the 2018/19 monitoring period, however, this review is separate to annual monitoring and looks at whether the Plan is delivering its aim and objectives whilst meeting the needs of Greater Manchester. The review undertaken in 2018 identified a number of areas where policies are not considered compliant with national policy and should be reviewed through any update to the Minerals Plan.
- 5.2. As highlighted at the beginning of the report, Greater Manchester has a limited supply of high-grade aggregates and so relies on imports from surrounding Minerals Planning Authorities for this material. Greater Manchester must continue to liaise with the surrounding Minerals Planning Authorities regarding movement of such minerals.