



To: Consultees on the Review of the Regional
Technical Statements for Aggregates

CC: Chairs of the North and South Wales
Regional Aggregates Working Parties
Secretaries of the North and South Wales
Regional Aggregates Working Parties

Eich cyf : Your ref
Ein cyf : Our ref
Dyddiad : Date 28 October 2013

Dear Colleagues

First Review of the Regional Technical Statements for Aggregates

This letter accompanies the consultation on revised Regional Technical Statements for Aggregates. It seeks to clarify certain matters relating to the consultation exercise and should be read in conjunction with previous advice on the status of the Regional Technical Statements at <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/planning/policy/dear-cpo-letters/regional-technical-statements-for-aggregates-review/?lang=en>

Minerals Technical Advice Note 1: Aggregates (2004) (MTAN 1) requires the preparation of a Regional Technical Statement in each Regional Aggregate Working Party (RAWP) area. The RTS documents are an important part of ensuring that an adequate supply of primary aggregates can be maintained, which meets local, regional and UK needs.

MTAN 1 envisages that each RTS should be reviewed every five years. Therefore, revised draft Statements have been developed with advice from a Steering Group comprising members of the north and south Wales RAWPs, which includes Local Authority, Welsh Government, Mineral Products Association, British Aggregates Association and Natural Resources Wales representatives. The revised draft has also been presented to both RAWPs for further technical input. The stage of the process now reached is that of formal consultation and comments are sought from a wider range of stakeholders prior to final endorsement by local authorities and by Welsh Government.

MTAN 1 provides the parameters for the review. In relation to some of these parameters certain assumptions have been made in developing the revised RTS documents. These assumptions have been made for good reason, based on the expertise of the steering group and primarily relate to the assessment of demand (the use of the past 10 year sales



average) and to the calculation of landbanks (dormant sites have been excluded from the calculation). Comments are invited on the appropriateness of the assumptions made in the revised documents. Depending on the outcomes of consultation, a decision will be taken on whether subsequent clarification of MTAN 1 is necessary and appropriate.

The RTS documents represent an important outcome of collaborative working on minerals and I expect they will continue be used in a positive manner in taking forward a strategic and sustainable approach to mineral planning for aggregates in Wales. I would urge you, therefore, to view this consultation exercise as an important opportunity to put forward your comments and influence how national planning policy on aggregates should be delivered.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rosemary Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

ROSEMARY THOMAS
Chief Planner/Deputy Director
Department for Housing and Regeneration

**Prif Gynlluniwr/Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr
Adran Tai ac Adfywio**