

The Minerals Planning Conference

Priorities for a New Government

Programme

9.30 am Registration

10.00 am Welcome

Helen Fadipe MBE, MRTPI - Vice President, Royal Town Planning Institute

10.10 am Keynote address

Recognition of the national value and contribution of our georesource assets is outdated. It is time to reconsider the treatment of minerals in two ways; firstly in terms of governance and stewardship and secondly through the lenses of sustainable development, security and resilience.

Dr Ian Selby – Director of Sustainable Geoscience, University of Plymouth

10.30 am SESSION 1

Good the bad and the ugly of LAAs

Kevin will provide a local authority perspective on practice in North East England and highlight some of the things that the Mineral Planning Authorities are doing well in their LAAs and some of the areas that they are struggling with and could improve upon. Local Aggregate Assessment are the foundation of the managed aggregate supply and mineral local plan system, but there is huge variation in methodology, structure and content. The presentation will look at different examples and explore why LAA's are so important at all levels of the planning system.

Kevin Tipple - Senior Planning Officer, Northumberland County Council

Kris Furness - Regional Land & Minerals Resources Manager, Breedon Group

SESSION 2

Fewer Appeals, More Appealing: Joining the strategic dots.

An efficient and effective minerals planning system and decision-making process is critical to ensure a steady and adequate supply of minerals for the UK – whether in construction or other industries. With the removal of the regional tier of government, the fragmentation of the historic counties as minerals planning authorities, coupled with the loss of a digest of minerals policy, we are seeing an increasing number of

decisions going against officer recommendation with less certainty and even allocated sites being refused planning permission. Can a national statement of need and a joined up 'national minerals strategy' ensure we do not return to the bad old days of planning by appeal.

Steve Fidgett – Director, Union 4 Planning

11.40 am **Morning break**

12.00 pm **SESSION 3**

Planning & Environment Decisions Wales

Victoria will discuss the planning policy framework for Minerals development in Wales, the role of Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) and our Planning Inspectors in Minerals planning, from Local Development Plan Examinations to recovered applications, planning appeals and enforcement. This will then follow with some of the key issues relevant in this casework and provide some tips on preparing your best case.

Vicky Robinson – Chief Planning Inspector, PEDW

Water resources planning & minerals

The ability to abstract water is critical for minerals production. Mineral extraction operations are now subject to water abstraction licences like any other abstractor. Many abstractors are seeing the amount of water they can abstract reduce due to environmental protections and climate change. The minerals sector can work with others through Regional Water Resources Groups to plan for water availability. Quarry restoration can also play a role in addressing water shortages.

Richard Blackwell – Director, Water Resources West

Developments in Hard Rock Blasting

We're having a blast...

Blasting is said to be one of the most contentious issues within quarrying, compounded by conflicting technical standards and policy. Current blasting controls contribute to processing inefficiencies which is resulting in the annual emission of over 77,000 tonnes of CO2. This presentation by GEARS discusses an evidence-based approach to optimising blast design and planning controls.

Tom Clifford – Director, GEARS Ltd

1.00 pm **Lunch**

2.00 pm **SESSION 4**

Legal Update

The case law update will explore the framing of applications (how to decide what the 'project' is); dealing with Framework policy and national guidance (the example of flood risk); once consent has been granted, how can it be lawfully changed? (what s73 means this week, and applying Hillside/Pilkington), and; a look ahead to some forthcoming Supreme Court judgments.

Richard Kimblin KC – Head of Planning and Environment, No5
Odette Chalaby – Barrister, No5

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3.00 pm **Afternoon break**

3.15 pm **SESSION 5**

Biodiversity Net Gain guidance for minerals

This will explore some implications of mandatory biodiversity net gain (BNG) in England for minerals planning and development. It will draw on examples of recent practice and delivery, identify some key issues, and recommend how we best approach this as a sector.

David Payne - Senior Planning Advisor, Mineral Products Association
Lisa Kirby-Hawkes - Head of Development & Flood & Water Management, Hampshire County Council

Building stone in masonry

Largely ignored in the low carbon debate, natural stone has the potential to dramatically reduce carbon by simply reverting to tried-and-tested loadbearing principles that are all around us in countless historical buildings. Stone is simply cut from the natural face and cut again at the factory into the final shape, the simplest of production processes. For thousands of years, humanity has taken advantage of the earth's primary resources. Whether gouging flint nodules out of the earth with an antler pick, or quarrying stone from huge quarries spread across the classical world, the impact of human industry on the ancient landscape has been substantial. In this session we shall explore some of the traces left by these activities to consider how the products were extracted from the ground, to what end, and what commentators in the ancient world thought of their efforts.

Michael Poultney - Managing Director, Albion Stone plc
Christopher Lyes – School of Archaeology, University of Oxford



4.15 pm Closing remarks

Mark Russell - Executive Director - Planning, Mineral Resources & BMAPA, Mineral Products Association

4.25 pm Networking drinks

5.15 pm Event close