

6th March 2017



Planning Policy Branch
Planning Directorate
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Mineral Products Association Ltd

Gillingham House
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London SW1V 1HU



www.mineralproducts.org

Dear Sir/Madam

NUMBER: WG29530: CALL FOR EVIDENCE AND PROJECTS NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Mineral Products Association (MPA) is the trade association for the aggregates, asphalt, cement, concrete, dimension stone, lime, mortar and silica sand industries. With the recent addition of British Precast and the British Association of Reinforcement (BAR), it has a growing membership of 480 companies and is the sectoral voice for mineral products. MPA membership is made up of the vast majority of independent SME quarrying companies throughout the UK, as well as the 9 major international and global companies. It covers 100% of GB cement production, 90% of aggregates production, 95% of asphalt and over 70% of ready-mixed concrete and precast concrete production. Each year the industry supplies £20 billion worth of materials and services to the Economy and is the largest supplier to the construction industry, which has annual output valued at £144 billion. Industry production represents the largest materials flow in the UK economy and is also one of the largest manufacturing sectors.

Further to the recent consultation on the above document, we believe it is important that in reviewing the spatial planning policy framework and identifying national projects, it is imperative that the NDF clearly develops a resourcing strategy for the medium to long term. Wales' wealth of mineral resources has been the foundation of its modern society. As the UK leaves the EU, it is extremely important that opportunities to deliver a sustainable Wales are not underestimated and that such resources are maximised to deliver the vision of health and the wellbeing goals for future generations. Health, transport connectivity, renewable energy, potable and waste water management, flood attenuation and alleviation and general economic and social wellbeing may all be delivered by the sustainable development of indigenous raw materials and the support for a local supply chain. This must clearly be done in a timely and consistent manner which must be a fundamental element of the NDF. Of equal importance is the safeguarding of mineral resources and the facilities associated in delivering raw materials to meet society's needs, such as wharves, rail sidings, plant and infrastructure to ensure the remain available for future generations and are not needlessly sterilised.

With the development of the NDF it is imperative that the link between, and status of, each strategic tier of planning policy is clear, particularly as some parts of Wales will have three tiers of development plans and others two. This will be critical as certain strategic planning matters may be dealt with at a regional or national level, if changes currently or having recently being consulted upon come to fruition or when national infrastructure projects are implemented.

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Registered in England as Mineral Products Association Limited No. 1634996
Registered at the above address

Forward planning through the NDF should allow the most cost-effective and sustainable solutions to be put in place to support the delivery of strategic development and national infrastructure projects. Needless to say, this takes time and therefore needs to be planned in advance of, or at least in parallel to, the infrastructure projects themselves.

It is important to recognise that mineral resources are not evenly distributed around the country and that a considerable amount of inter-regional trade in materials already occurs to meet the base load demand for construction aggregates in the market. Consequently, it is likely that many areas of primary mineral supply will be required to support the demands from multiple infrastructure projects and strategic developments. The timings of prospective strategic developments and major individual infrastructure projects need to be understood, so that both the anticipated total cumulative and annual peak demands can be determined in order for sufficient production capacity and associated transport/delivery infrastructure to be put in place. This should form a fundamental element of the NDF, and each routine and regular review.

The above must be achieved in harmony with the likes of the NICfW and the Natural Resources Policy. Clarity over the status of each and respective responsibilities of the various regulators is imperative.

We trust the above comments are helpful and we would be happy to discuss any of the points raised.

Yours sincerely

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Mr Nick Horsley
Director of Planning, Industrial Minerals and MPA Wales

Submission of Evidence Form – National Development Framework	
Name	Mr P N Horsley
Contact details	████████████████████
Date	
Title of evidence	Sustainable Use of Natural Resources
Summary of evidence	To ensure Wales' indigenous resources are developed in a sustainable and timely manner to meet the goals of the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act
Summary of key issues/conclusions	The sustainable management of Wales' natural resources
Why have you submitted this evidence?	Welsh Government has consulted extensively over recent months on various changes to legislation and policy. With changes to local government pending, and
How should this evidence inform the development of the NDF?	A steady and adequate supply of raw materials is critical to ensure sustainable development. The Hendry report recently confirmed the importance of the UK supply chain. The timely consideration of the various projects which would be highlighted in the NDF coupled with major infrastructure projects must be properly thought out to maximise opportunities and minimise costs.
How does this evidence and any actions it recommends help achieve the 7 well-being goals?	A sustainable supply of local raw materials will help contribute to all seven goals.
Why is the evidence of national significance?	An indigenous supply of raw materials amongst other matters, assists cost management, reduce carbon emissions by minimising transport distances, safeguard local employment, create biodiversity opportunities and deliver vital development and infrastructure.
Do you agree for your evidence to be made public? (Only evidence that can be made public will inform the development of the NDF)	Yes