

Appendix C: Public consultation

Public consultation will take place for six weeks in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008, and the Statement of Community Involvement adopted by the former Bedfordshire County Council in 2006. Methods of informing the public and interested parties of the consultation will include statutory notices, the Central Bedfordshire Council webpage, and use of all points of presence, such as libraries and Council Offices.

All parish councils, statutory Government bodies (such as Natural England and the Highways Agency), and members of the public who have expressed an interest in previous consultation on the Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework will be informed of the beginning of the consultation period by email. Copies of the consultation documents will be placed in all points of presence such as Council buildings, which will enable all members of the public to comment, both on the Safeguarding Areas themselves, and the Policy proposed to be applied to them. All documents will include details of how to respond to the consultation, whether through internet portal, by mail, or email.

In addition the Mineral Safeguarding Areas and draft safeguarding Policy has been subject to an informal consultation with the mineral industry. The purpose of this was to refine the boundaries of the Safeguarding Areas, as well as ensuring that the proposed Policy is workable.