

# REPORT FOR DECISION

**MEETING:** COUNCIL

**DATE:** 30<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2011

**SUBJECT:** GREATER MANCHESTER JOINT MINERALS  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT: PUBLICATION  
STAGE

**REPORT FROM:** CABINET MEMBER - ENVIRONMENT AND  
TRANSPORT

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Paul Allen – Planning and Transportation Policy  
Manager

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**TYPE OF DECISION:** COUNCIL DECISION

**FREEDOM OF  
INFORMATION/STATUS:** THIS PAPER IS WITHIN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

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**SUMMARY:** In November 2009 the ten Greater Manchester Authorities agreed to produce a joint Development Plan Document (DPD) covering minerals.

Since then the document has undergone a series of consultations to identify locations for future minerals development and to develop a suite of minerals planning policies.

The **Publication DPD has now been approved in principle by the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Planning Committee** but in order to comply with the relevant regulations, the Publication DPD and its submission to the Secretary of State **now requires approval by each District's Full Council.**

Should **any minor amendments** to the document be required prior to the submission of the DPD to the Secretary of State, Members are asked to delegate such minor changes to the GM Joint Minerals Planning

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Committee.

**The Publication Minerals Plan DPD, together with other supporting documentation, is available at the Members' Information Point and has been made available in electronic format to all Members. The documentation is also available via the Council's website at [www.bury.gov.uk](http://www.bury.gov.uk).**

**OPTIONS &  
RECOMMENDED OPTION**

**Recommended Options**

It is recommended that the Council:

1. Approves the Publication Joint Minerals Development Plan Document and its submission to Secretary of State; and
2. Delegates responsibility to the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Planning Committee for approval of any minor or non-material changes to the Publication Joint Minerals Development Plan Document before its submission to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

**Other Options:**

That Members seek revisions to the proposed content of the Publication Minerals Plan DPD prior to further consultations and participation – Members to specify the nature of any revisions to be sought.

**Reasons:**

The production of a Joint Minerals Plan is considered necessary to provide an up to date and sustainable planning framework to guide and control mineral development within Greater Manchester, together with the movement and use of mineral resources to meet development needs.

The approval of the Publication Minerals Plan DPD and its submission to the Secretary of State is an important stage in the production of the GM Joint Minerals Plan, and a further major element in the production of Bury's Local Development Framework (LDF), and it is necessary to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to play a part in this process.

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**IMPLICATIONS:**

**Corporate Aims/Policy**

Do the proposals accord with the Policy

<b>Framework:</b>	Framework?	Yes	No
	<p>The existing Bury UDP forms part of the Council's Policy Framework (being one of the statutory plans listed under Article 4) and will be replaced eventually by Development Plan Documents to be produced under the arrangements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The GM Joint Minerals Plan DPD is one such document.</p>		
<b>Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:</b>	<p>The consideration of the Publication Minerals Plan DPD is a key stage in the production of the GM Joint Minerals Plan and will, when adopted, form a significant element of Bury's Local Development Framework.</p> <p>The production of the GM Joint Minerals Plan is being carried out on behalf of the ten Greater Manchester districts by the Greater Manchester Geological Unit (GMGU). Finance for this work is being provided by the ten Greater Manchester districts and existing budget provision has and continues to be made to cover all costs involved. See statement by Executive Director of Resource below.</p>		
<b>Statement by Executive Director of Resource:</b>	<p>Bury Council's contributions to the financing of the production of the GM Joint Minerals Plan have been made from existing revenue budgets.</p> <p>Existing revenue budgets continue to include provision for the production of the GM Joint Minerals Plan and sufficient budget is available to meet the estimated costs of £15,000 in 2011/12 and £22,400 in 2012/13.</p>		
<b>Equality/Diversity implications:</b>	<p>No (see paragraphs 2.7 – 2.9)</p>		
<b>Considered by Monitoring Officer:</b>	Yes	(JH)	Comments (see below)
<b>Are there any legal implications?</b>	Yes	No	
	<p>The Monitoring Officer is satisfied that the proposals set out in this report are consistent with the statutory requirements placed on the Council as Local Planning Authority,</p>		

within the Council's Policy Framework and within the legal powers of the Council.

**Staffing/ICT/Property:**

In addition to the work undertaken by GMGU, the preparation of the GM Joint Minerals Plan has already and will continue to require significant commitment of staff resources, particularly from the Planning and Transportation Policy Section. It will be important, therefore, to ensure that staffing levels are maintained if the measures and procedures set out for LDFs are to be adhered to.

ICT will play an important role in aiding consultation and adoption processes associated with the production of LDF documents. The Authority's website will need to carry links to, and details of, all documents produced.

In relation to property issues, Development Plan Documents produced under the LDF arrangements will contain revised/new planning policies and proposals which could have implications for land and property holdings. Consultations have been carried out with Property Services officers and will continue to ensure any implications are fully considered.

**Wards Affected:**

All

**Scrutiny Interest:**

Scrutiny Committee (Internal)

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**TRACKING/PROCESS**

**DIRECTOR: EDS**

Chief Executive/ Management Board	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
	Cabinet Member briefing 14/3/11		
Scrutiny Commission	Executive	Committee	Council
		GM Joint Minerals Planning Committee 22/3/11	30/3/11

## 1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The ten Districts constituting the Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA) agreed to produce a Joint Minerals Development Plan Document (JMDDP) in 2009. The document is now at the Publication stage and, in order to comply with the relevant regulations, the Publication DPD and its subsequent submission to the Secretary of State requires full council approval by each of the ten AGMA Districts. Approval for this document to date has been delegated to the GM Joint Minerals Planning Committee which comprises one Member from each of the Districts.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the continued development of the Joint Minerals Development Plan Document for Greater Manchester (JMDDP), and to seek full Council approval of the Publication DPD and its submission to Secretary of State. In addition, members are asked to delegate responsibility for minor or non-material changes to the Publication DPD back to the GM Joint Minerals Planning Committee.

## 2.0 ISSUES

- 2.1 The JMDDP covers land-use planning matters in relation to minerals development for the Greater Manchester area and sets out the policy approach to each mineral found here: construction aggregates; brick clay; natural building stone; coal; unconventional gas resources; and peat.
- 2.2 The document includes a set of development control policies which will assist in the consideration of minerals planning applications. In addition, the JMDDP identifies Areas of Search for future mineral development, which are broad areas within which there may be particular sites that could meet any shortfall in supply. It also sets out how Greater Manchester's mineral resources will be protected from sterilisation through Mineral Safeguarding Areas. These will need to be added to each District's Local Development Framework Proposals Map upon adoption of the DPD.

### 2.3 In relation to Bury:

- **Reference** is made in the JMDDP to current mineral workings at Fletcher Bank Quarry (crushed rock) and Pilsworth South Quarry (sand) – **see JMDDP Section 4, pages 13 – 14, paras 4.24, 4.25 & 4.28.**
- **Areas of Search** are identified within Bury for sand, gravel and sandstone/gritstone – **see JMDDP Section 5, Policy 2 and associated maps.** Members should be aware that any proposals for mineral extraction within the Areas of Search would be subject to a planning application and would need to demonstrate that the proposal would not have an unacceptable impact on key planning and environmental considerations, that any adverse impacts could be satisfactorily mitigated, that the mineral is required to meet a demonstrated need and that adequate reserves in terms of quality and quantity exist on the site.
- **Mineral Safeguarding Areas** are identified within Bury for sandstone, sand and gravel and brick clay with shallow coal – **see JMDDP Section 6, Policy 7 and associated maps.** Within the Mineral Safeguarding Areas, development proposals of a significant nature would be required to consider whether any mineral resources

should be extracted prior to the development going ahead to avoid mineral resources being needlessly sterilised by non-mineral development.

- 2.4 All policies within the JMDPD, have been subject to consultation with stakeholders. The Publication JMDPD is now ready to be published under regulation 27 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (amendment) Regulations 2008 and formal representations invited prior to the DPD being submitted to the Secretary of State. Representations relating to the Publication DPD should be submitted to GMGU throughout a 6 week consultation period (Regulation 28) to take place July to September 2011.
- 2.5 The Publication DPD is the last opportunity for consultees to make representations on the JMDPD. Following the receipt of representations the document will then be submitted (together with any representations received) to the Secretary of State in December 2011. A public examination will then follow in April 2012.
- 2.6 Prior to formal submission it may be necessary to make some minor amendments to the Publication DPD (for example, to correct any spelling mistakes or other minor errors) but these cannot fundamentally change the substance of the document or its intentions. The Council is therefore asked to delegate responsibility to the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Planning Committee for agreeing any minor changes to the Joint Minerals Development Plan Document prior to its submission to the Secretary of State.

### **Equality and Diversity**

- 2.7 **Outcome of ECIA:** It has been found that a Full Impact Assessment is not required for this document as it does not raise any issues.
- 2.8 Issues identified in ECIA and recommendations in the ECIA: The Initial Screening Exercise has identified neutral equality impacts for all groups and insignificant cohesion impacts. No risks were found and, therefore, a decision was taken to proceed without the need for a Full Impact Assessment. No recommendations were made in the ECIA.
- 2.9 ECIA contact officer details:

Officer completing the ECIA – Philippa Lane (GMGU) 0161 604 7652  
Equalities Representative - Fran Smith 0161 253 7391

### **3.0 CONCLUSION**

- 3.1 This report has drawn Members' attention to the key elements of the emerging GM Joint Waste Plan. Many of the elements have been developed through an extensive programme of issues, options and preferred options, together with ongoing consultation with key stakeholders, interested parties and the general public.
- 3.2 Members are requested to approve the Publication Waste Plan DPD and associated measures leading to its submission to the Secretary of State.

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### **List of Background Papers:-**

Copies of the previous JMDPD consultation documents and Sustainability Appraisal Reports are available to download from the JMDPD website at [www.gmineralsplan.co.uk](http://www.gmineralsplan.co.uk).

### **Contact Details:-**

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