

Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority

**YORKSHIRE DALES
MINERALS AND WASTE
LOCAL PLAN**

Saved Policies

September 2007

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

YORKSHIRE DALES MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN

ADOPTED OCTOBER 1998

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1 INTRODUCTION

The National Park

- 1.1 The Yorkshire Dales National Park was designated in 1954 and is the third largest of the National Parks of England and Wales, covering an area of 1,772 square kilometres (684 square miles). It has a population of 18,000 in some 7,400 households, mainly in small villages. The largest settlement in the National Park is Sedbergh, with 2000 people.

- 1.2 Some 88% of the National Park is within the County of North Yorkshire and 12% is within the County of Cumbria and it includes parts of the Districts of Richmondshire, Craven and South Lakeland. Between 1974 and 1997 it was administered by a Committee of North Yorkshire County Council which was comprised of representatives of the two County Councils and the three District Councils together with members appointed by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

- 1.3 The Environment Act, 1995 made provision for a free standing authority to administer the National Park from April 1997. The National Park Authority is made up of representatives of the constituent local authorities and members appointed by the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State's appointees include parish representatives. The Authority is the local planning authority for the National Park and has responsibility for the control of development, including minerals and waste disposal.

2 THE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN

The Purpose of the Plan

- 2.1 The purpose of the Plan is to establish a comprehensive set of land use policies to guide and control minerals and waste disposal development within the National Park and to provide a basis for determining planning applications.
- 2.2 The end date of Plan is 31st December 2006.
- 2.3 The aims of the plan are:
- to identify what provision the National Park will make for the forecast local, regional and national demand for minerals;
 - to identify what provision the National Park will make for the disposal of waste;
 - to provide local residents, industry, public bodies and interest groups with a clear indication of the future scale and impact of mineral working and waste disposal in the National Park;
 - to safeguard and conserve mineral resources in the National Park, to encourage the appropriate use of high quality minerals and to encourage the use of secondary and recycled materials wherever possible;
 - to provide a detailed policy framework for controlling mineral working, waste disposal and ancillary development to minimise any adverse effects on the environment and local amenity in the National Park;
 - to move towards the objective of sustainability in minerals and waste planning.

The Context of the Plan and Existing Planning Policies

- 2.4 The Planning and Compensation Act 1991, which amends the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, requires the Local Planning Authority for a National Park to prepare minerals and waste local plans for their area. In this plan waste policies are being included within a combined minerals and waste local plan.
- 2.5 Government policy and advice on minerals and waste disposal planning is provided in the form of Minerals Planning Guidance Notes (MPGs) and Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPGs).
- 2.6 The area of the County of North Yorkshire will be covered by separate minerals and waste plans for the Yorkshire Dales, the North York Moors National Park and the area of the County outside the two National Parks. A combined Project Brief was published in June 1993 and this was followed by an Issues Report covering the whole of the County, published in June 1994. A Consultation Draft of the North Yorkshire Minerals Local Plan was then published in December 1994 and a Consultation Draft of the Yorkshire Dales Minerals and Waste Local Plan was published in January 1995. Close contact with the County Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority was maintained during the preparation of the Plans in order to ensure that the policies drawn up by the three mineral and waste planning authorities are compatible across the whole of North Yorkshire. A Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan was published as a Deposit Draft in September 1996. The Cumbria Plan covers the areas of that County that are outside the Lake District and Yorkshire Dales National Parks.

- 2.7 The Deposit Draft of the Yorkshire Dales Minerals and Waste Local Plan was published in October 1995 and Proposed Changes were published during 1996. A joint public inquiry into objections to the Deposit Draft of the North Yorkshire Minerals Local Plan and the Yorkshire Dales Minerals and Waste Local Plan was held in October and December 1996. A total of 62 objections to the Deposit Draft had been received (of which 10 were subsequently withdrawn) and a further 13 objections (of which one was subsequently withdrawn) had been received to the Proposed Changes agreed by the National Park Committee prior to the Inquiry. The report of the inquiry Inspector was received in April 1997 and at their meeting in July 1997 the Authority accepted all of the Inspector's recommendations. Proposed Modifications to the Deposit Copy were advertised in August 1997 and one formal objection was received.
- 2.8 Local plans form part of a two-tier development plan system. They are required generally to conform with the County Structure Plans, which provide the strategic framework for land use planning. The Yorkshire Dales National Park is covered by the North Yorkshire and the Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plans. The North Yorkshire Structure Plan contains a set of policies on minerals and waste disposal, which were approved in 1989 as part of Alteration No. 2. A new Cumbria and Lake District Joint Structure Plan, which also includes minerals and waste disposal policies, was adopted in July 1995.
- 2.9 The Yorkshire Dales Local Plan was adopted in September 1996. The Yorkshire Dales Local Plan covers a wide range of topics, but does not include policies specifically concerned with minerals and waste disposal. Nevertheless, policies on a number of issues, including employment, the conservation of landscape and nature, archaeology, traffic and transport and the protection of the water environment are relevant and complementary to this Minerals and Waste Local Plan. The two Local Plans together with the Structure Plans, form the development plan for the area, against which all planning applications have to be assessed. **THE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN SHOULD, THEREFORE, BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE YORKSHIRE DALES LOCAL PLAN.**
- 2.10 Under the Provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, County Councils are required to prepare Waste Disposal Plans. These are primarily concerned with the management aspects of treating and disposing of controlled waste and they replace Waste Disposal Plans produced under the requirements of the Control of Pollution Act 1984. The sections of this Local Plan that deal with waste set out policies for the land-use aspects of waste disposal within the National Park.
- 2.11 Information on sales of aggregate minerals within the region is available from the publications of the Yorkshire and the Humber Region Aggregates Working Party (RAWP). The Working Party is a technical working group with membership drawn from officers of the mineral planning authorities, the minerals industry and the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the British Geological Survey are also represented. Surveys of the aggregate minerals industry are undertaken by each mineral planning authority using standard questionnaires prepared by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions. Details of sales, end uses, and the level of permitted reserves are published annually with a full survey undertaken every four years. The most recent of these full surveys was undertaken at the beginning of 1994 to collect data for 1993 and the results are contained in the Aggregates Monitoring Report, 1993. The figures given in this Local Plan are derived from the work of the RAWP. It should be noted that, in order to preserve confidentiality, figures are amalgamated where it would otherwise be possible to identify figures for a single site or company. Where this has been done a note is included at the foot of the table.

Sustainable Development

- 2.12 The Government is committed to the integration of the principles of sustainable development into plans, policies and programmes. The Report on the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland Report) defined sustainable development as "*development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*" The Government White Paper entitled "This Common Inheritance" stresses the importance of combining economic growth with care for the environment in order to attain sustainable development.
- 2.13 MPG3, MPG6 and MPG13 set out the objectives of sustainable development for minerals planning:
- i to conserve minerals as far as possible, whilst ensuring an adequate supply to meet the needs of society for minerals;*
 - ii to minimise production of waste and to encourage efficient use of materials, including appropriate use of high quality materials, and recycling of wastes;*
 - iii to encourage sensitive working practices during minerals extraction and to preserve or enhance the overall quality of the environment once extraction has ceased;*
 - iv to protect designated areas of critical landscape or nature quality from development, other than in exceptional circumstances where it has been demonstrated that development is in the public interest; (MPG13 wording)*
 - v to minimise impacts from the transport of minerals (MPG3 wording).*
- 2.14 The quarrying of rock, in many instances, creates an irreversible and adverse effect on the environment and involves the exploitation of a non-renewable resource. The application of the principles of sustainable development requires the strictest protection of National Park landscapes, particularly as most minerals can be quarried from less sensitive areas. Quarrying in the National Park of the existing scale and for the current end uses is not sustainable. Far greater emphasis on the protection of the designated landscape and areas of nature conservation importance, the recycling of minerals and the appropriate use of high quality materials is therefore required if the principles of sustainability are to be met. The National Park Authority will continue to oppose inappropriate uses of high quality materials and will oppose schemes and projects, where it appears to the Authority that adequate provision has not been made to avoid inappropriate use of high quality materials from the Yorkshire Dales.

Development in National Parks

- 2.15 Section 61 of The Environment Act, 1995 sets out the purposes of National Parks:-
- (a) conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the areas; and*
 - (b) promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of those areas by the public.*

In addition Section 62 of the Act imposes a duty on National Park Authorities to seek to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities within the National Park, but without incurring significant expenditure in doing so.

- 2.16 In the White Paper "This Common Inheritance", the Government sets out its general policy on development in National Parks:
- "The Government will continue to give the protection of the Parks the highest priority. It will ensure that their special needs and priorities are reflected in policies affecting agriculture, forestry, transport, industry and minerals. Major industrial or commercial development will not normally be permitted in National Parks: only where there are proven national needs and a lack of alternative sites can any exception be justified."*
- 2.17 PPG7 provides detailed Government planning policies for all forms of development in National Parks and together with MPG6 confirms that major developments should not take place save in exceptional circumstances. MPG6 sets out the criteria against which mineral applications in National Parks should normally be assessed:
- i the need for the development, in terms of national considerations of mineral supply; and the impact of permitting the development, or refusing it, on the local economy;*
 - ii whether alternative supplies can be made available at reasonable cost; and the scope for meeting the need in some other way;*
 - iii any detrimental effect of the proposals on the environment and landscape and the extent to which that should be moderated; and*
 - iv in the case of extensions to existing quarries, the extent to which the proposal would achieve an enhancement to the local landscape.*
- 2.18 This Plan has been prepared in accordance with Government guidance on minerals extraction, waste disposal and development in National Parks.

The Format of the Local Plan

- 2.19 The Yorkshire Dales Minerals and Waste Local Plan sets out and explains the policies which will guide the National Park Authority when considering planning applications for mineral extraction, waste disposal and ancillary development. The plan sets out detailed policies for mineral working and waste disposal within the National Park. The policies are highlighted in capital letters and each has a specific reference number.
- 2.20 Drawing No. 1 shows the location of active and dormant quarries and waste disposal sites in the National Park.

Public Consultation

- 2.21 The preparation of the Plan included a Project Brief and Issues Report prepared for the whole of North Yorkshire and a Consultation Draft and Deposit Copy for the Yorkshire Dales. Extensive consultation exercises were undertaken on these documents.
- 2.22 The National Park Authority carried out formal consultations with local authorities, statutory undertakers, the minerals and waste disposal industry, environmental groups and other interested organisations. In addition the Consultation Draft and Deposit Plan were made available at offices in the National Park and in libraries and their preparation was publicised in press notices.

3 MINERAL EXTRACTION

Background

3.1 Much of the landscape character of the Yorkshire Dales results from the underlying geology of the area. This geology also provides the resource for mineral working. Today almost all the mineral working activity is in the form of quarrying for aggregates, but in the past there have been extensive surface and underground workings for lead and other vein minerals and also for coal.

The Geology of the National Park

3.2 The geology of the Yorkshire Dales consists, in the main, of relatively flat-lying rocks of Carboniferous age which rest unconformably on older, more strongly folded and cleaved Ordovician and Silurian rocks. The structural geology is dominated by the Askrigg Block, which is bounded by the Craven Faults which separate it from the Craven Basin to the south, and the Dent Fault which forms the western boundary of the Block (Drawing No 2).

3.3 The Howgill Fells to the west of the Dent Fault are composed of Ordovician and Silurian rocks. Elsewhere in the National Park these older rocks are seen only in the valley floors at Chapel le Dale, Austwick and Ribblesdale where they form inliers on the north side of the North Craven Fault. The Ordovician and Silurian beds consist of folded, highly compacted sandstones, siltstones and mudstones.

3.4 A succession of flat-lying Lower Carboniferous rocks was deposited over the pre-Carboniferous land surface. It commences with basement beds and the Kilnsey Formation, the upper part of which contains the Kilnsey Limestone. The limestone strata overlying the Kilnsey Formation are termed the Malham Formation, within which two named members are recognised, the Cove Limestone and the Gordale Limestone. These limestones outcrop extensively in the southern part of the National Park and result in the characteristic limestone scenery of scars, limestone pavements and solution features including caves. On the south side of the Middle Craven Fault, these limestones pass laterally into marginal reef limestones composed of massive, fossiliferous, calcite mudstones. The reef limestones form the Craven Reef Belt, a line of prominent, rounded hills extending in a belt from Settle to Appletreewick.

3.5 The succeeding rocks above the massive limestones of the Malham Formation are the Yoredale beds of the Wensleydale Formation. These consist of repeated alternations of limestone, shale and sandstone with some thin coal seams. The resistant limestones and sandstones of the Yoredales form the stepped landform which is characteristic of Wensleydale and the surrounding area.

3.6 The rocks of Upper Carboniferous age contain coarser, more massive sandstones, such as the Grassington Grit and are known collectively as the Millstone Grit. These rocks form the high moorland areas and the higher parts of the main hills of the Yorkshire Dales.

3.7 Vein mineralisation occurs extensively within the Carboniferous rocks. The main mineralised areas are found from Greenhow to Wharfedale and in Wensleydale and Upper Swaledale.

3.8 The landform of much of the Yorkshire Dales has been influenced by glaciation. The most widespread effects result from the latest glaciation which occurred between 26,000 and 10,000 year ago. These movements of ice have left extensive deposits of boulder clay with associated water-laid sand, gravel, silt and laminated clay. In other areas the ice has scraped the surface of the rocks, giving rise to the formation of areas of limestone pavement.

- 3.9 Following the last period of glaciation, peat deposits formed on the uplands and alluvial sands, gravels, silts and clays have been deposited within the valleys by rivers and streams.

Quarrying and Mining in the National Park

- 3.10 Siltstones and sandstones within the Ordovician and Silurian strata are quarried at Ingleton Quarry in Chapel le Dale and at Arcow and Dry Rigg Quarries in Ribblesdale. These rocks are frequently described by the general term "gritstone" in the quarrying industry, although the term is often not an accurate geological description. In addition there are dormant gritstone quarries with extant planning permission at Helwith Bridge and Old Ingleton, and Horton Quarry contains gritstone which is not at present being worked. Because of their hard-wearing, skid-resistant properties, these are high specification aggregates used principally for road surfacing materials.
- 3.11 The quarrying of limestone takes place at Swinden, Threshfield and Cool Scar Quarries in Wharfedale and at Horton and Giggleswick Quarries in Ribblesdale. The working at Swinden Quarry is within a reef limestone. At the other four sites, the Cove Limestone is quarried with some of the quarries also working the underlying Kilnsey or the overlying Gordale Limestones. There is also a dormant limestone quarry with extant planning permission at Ribblehead. The limestone quarries were developed principally to supply high purity limestones for lime burning, subsequently becoming major suppliers to the steel industry. In recent years this use has declined rapidly and the production of aggregates now predominates at all of the quarries.
- 3.12 Sandstones and limestones have been quarried at numerous locations within the Yorkshire Dales for local use as building stone. Thinly bedded sandstones have also been extensively quarried and mined to provide stone roofing 'slates'. A small amount of building stone is produced by some of the aggregate quarries, but with the exception of one small quarry at Hill Top, Keld there is no significant production of building stone or roofing slates within the National Park at the present time.
- 3.13 Lead mining in the Yorkshire Dales dates back to pre-Roman times with the industry reaching its peak in the late 18th Century and the first half of the 19th Century. In more recent times working has been confined to the mining of fluorspar and barytes from the veins and the reworking of waste heaps. In the last twenty years the few remaining operations have become uneconomic and there are no currently active workings. The working of coal, from thin seams within the Carboniferous rocks, has also ceased, although this too was once extensive.
- 3.14 A limited amount of oil and gas exploration has been undertaken in areas to the south of the Craven Faults, on the southern edge of the National Park. However, with the exception of the Craven Basin, the geology of most of the Yorkshire Dales is unlikely to attract oil and gas exploration and none of the National Park is at present licensed for exploration.
- 3.15 Quarrying has traditionally been an important source of local employment. Whilst modern large scale mineral extraction employs fewer people, its contribution to local employment remains significant.

Present Day Quarrying

3.16 National Park quarries have generated annual sales, over the five year period between 1989 and 1993, ranging between 5.5 mt and 4.1 mt. The sales of limestone and gritstone aggregate and total non-aggregate sales are shown in Table 1. Crushed rock aggregates are materials used by the construction industry for uses such as road construction and repair, as aggregate in concrete, and for general fill and other constructional uses. Non-aggregate sales from National Park quarries are for uses including building stone, agricultural lime, flux in iron and steel manufacture, mortars and chemical uses.

TABLE 1

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK
SALES OF LIMESTONE AND GRITSTONE AGGREGATE AND SALES OF NON-AGGREGATES
(thousand tonnes)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Carboniferous Limestone</u>	<u>Gritstone</u>	<u>Total Aggregate Sales</u>	<u>Total Non-Aggregates Sales (a)</u>
1989	3,952	1,276	5,228	280
1990	3,679	1,120	4,799	270
1991	3,268	1,136	4,404	198
1992	2,982	974	3,956	147
1993	3,136	899	4,035	90

(a) Non-aggregate sales are all Carboniferous Limestone except for a small tonnage of gritstone used for building stone in 1993.

The table shows declining sales from 1989 with a small upturn in 1993 in line with regional and national trends. It also illustrates the small and declining proportion of non-aggregate sales from over 5% of total sales in 1989 and 1990 to 2.2% in 1993.

3.17 During the period from 1989 to 1993 the National Park quarries provided almost half of North Yorkshire's and almost one third of the Yorkshire and Humberside Region's crushed rock aggregate (Table 2).

TABLE 2

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE
SALES OF CRUSHED ROCK AGGREGATE 1989 - 1993 (thousand tonnes)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Yorkshire and Humberside</u>	<u>North Yorkshire including YDNP</u>	<u>Yorkshire Dales National Park</u>	<u>Percentage of North Yorkshire total from YDNP</u>
1989	16,936	10,638	5,228	49.1
1990	16,121	9,993	4,799	48.0
1991	14,908	9,351	4,404	47.1
1992	13,363	8,372	3,956	47.3
1993	13,465	8,858	4,035	45.6

3.18 Information is available on the categories of end uses of sales in 1993 and this is contained in Table 3.

TABLE 3

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK
END USES OF SALES IN 1993 (thousand tonnes)

	<u>Carboniferous Limestone</u>	<u>Gritstone</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage of Total</u>
Coated and Uncoated Roadstone	1,517	769	2,286	55.4
Concrete Aggregate	1,017	0	1,017	24.6
Fill and Other Constructional Uses	602	130 (b)	732	17.8
Non-Aggregate Uses	90 (c)	(c)	90 (c)	2.2
TOTAL	3,226	899	4,125	100

(b) Includes a small tonnage of gritstone used for concrete aggregate.

(c) Non-aggregate use predominantly Carboniferous Limestone except for small tonnage of gritstone used for building stone.

3.19 The figures contained in Tables 2 and 3 show a situation where the National Park is providing a large proportion of the crushed rock produced in the Region and where the overwhelming proportion of that rock is being sold for aggregate uses. Overall only 2.2% of all sales and 2.8% of limestone sales were to non-aggregate uses in 1993. Over 55% of all sales and 47% of limestone sales were as roadstone. This is in a situation where the limestones being quarried within the National Park are of high or very high purity, suitable for some of the highest specification industrial uses. The present position, particularly for the limestone quarries, is not compatible with the principles of sustainable development. One of the aims of this Plan is to establish a framework of policies based on the objectives of sustainable development and which recognises the need to move towards those objectives.

3.20 The geographical distribution of sales of aggregate is shown in Table 4. This indicates that over two thirds of the rock produced is sold outside the boundaries of North Yorkshire. The principal markets are in the major urban areas closest to the National Park with West Yorkshire taking 40%, and Lancashire and Greater Manchester 15% of sales. Less than 0.5% of sales are to areas beyond Yorkshire and Humberside and the adjoining Northern and North West Regions.

TABLE 4

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF SALES IN 1993: AGGREGATES ONLY
(thousand tonnes)

<u>Region</u>	<u>Sales</u>	<u>Percentage of Total</u>	<u>Note</u>
<u>Yorkshire & Humberside</u>			
North Yorkshire	1,252	31.0	
West Yorkshire	1,611	39.9	Includes rail hauled
Humberside	325	8.1	Includes rail hauled
South Yorkshire	7	0.2	
<u>Northern</u>			
Cumbria	129	3.2	
Durham, Cleveland, Northumberland, Tyne & Wear	35	0.9	Mostly to Durham
<u>North West</u>			
Lancashire	528	13.1	
Greater Manchester	98	2.4	
Cheshire, Merseyside	33	0.8	
<u>East Midlands</u>			
Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire	2	0.05	Includes small tonnage to Buckinghamshire (South East)
<u>Other</u>			
Wales, Scotland	15	0.35	Powys, Clwyd, Tayside, Dumfries and Galloway
TOTAL	4,035	100	

Permitted Reserves

- 3.21 The Yorkshire and the Humber Region Aggregates Working Party collects information on the level of permitted reserves within the region and keeps this information up-to-date by monitoring sales and the granting of new planning permissions by the mineral planning authorities.
- 3.22 In the Yorkshire Dales National Park there are reserves of Carboniferous Limestone with the benefit of planning permission for quarrying at Cool Scar, Giggleswick, Horton, Swinden and Threshfield Quarries, which are currently worked, and at Ribblehead, which is at present dormant. Permitted reserves of gritstone are located at the three active quarries Arcow, Dry Rigg and Ingleton as well as at the dormant Helwithh Bridge and Old Ingleton sites. In addition there are permitted reserves of gritstone at Horton Quarry, where at present only the limestone is worked. The permitted reserves of Carboniferous Limestone and gritstone at 1st January 1994 are shown in Table 5.

TABLE 5

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK
PERMITTED RESERVES AT 1ST JANUARY 1994

Carboniferous Limestone	147.260 million tonnes
Gritstone	32.945 million tonnes
Total	180.205 million tonnes

3.23 Sales of crushed rock aggregate during 1994 totalled 4.535mt of which 1.036mt was gritstone (high specification aggregate). Total sales for non-aggregate purposes were 0.156mt. The levels of permitted reserves at 1st January 1995 are set out in Table 5B.

TABLE 5B

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK
PERMITTED RESERVES AT 1ST JANUARY 1995

Carboniferous Limestone	143.605 million tonnes
Gritstone	31.909 million tonnes
Total	175.514 million tonnes

Planning permission to deepen Swinden Quarry has been granted by the National Park Committee in 1996 and this permissions adds a further 37mt of Carboniferous Limestone to the permitted reserves.

4 AGGREGATE MINERALS

Demand and Supply

- 4.1 The revised Minerals Planning Guidance 6 (MPG6) was published in April 1994. The Guidelines cover the period 1992 to 2006 and include an assessment of the future demand for aggregates in England and the sources of supply to meet that demand. The Government takes the view that for the purposes of preparing planning guidelines over the period from 1992 to 2006 demand for aggregates in England is likely to be in the order of 4.2 billion tonnes.
- 4.2 Annex A of MPG6 sets out Regional Guidelines which indicate how provision for the supply of aggregates should be made to meet anticipated needs to 2006. Paragraph 58 of MPG6 indicates that local authorities should make provision in their development plans for the appropriate local apportionment of the Regional Guidelines. For Yorkshire and Humberside, the Guidelines suggest that there is likely to be a net demand on the Region for some 427 million tonnes (mt) of aggregate minerals and they envisage that this demand will be met as shown in Table 6:

TABLE 6

SOURCES OF AGGREGATE : YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE

SOURCE		1992 - 2006
<u>GUIDELINE</u>		<u>SUPPLY</u> (million tonnes)
Crushed rock production		280
Sand and gravel production		60
Secondary and recycled		65
Marine sand and gravel		7
Exports from region	Rock	-35
	Sand and gravel	-15
Imports to region (mostly sand and gravel)		65
TOTAL		427

- 4.3 The Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Planning Conference with the advice of the Regional Aggregate Working Party (RAWP) has carried out an apportionment exercise of production requirement which it commends to mineral planning authorities in the region for the purposes of Mineral Local Plan preparation. The apportionment indicates a requirement for the production of 176 mt of crushed rock aggregate from North Yorkshire including the Yorkshire Dales National Park during the plan period (Table 7). The National Park is not a producer of sand and gravel.

TABLE 7**AGGREGATE PRODUCTION REQUIREMENT : YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE**

	Production requirement(mt) 1992 - 2006	
	<u>Crushed Rock</u>	<u>Sand and gravel</u>
North Yorkshire, including Yorkshire Dales National Park	176	32
South Yorkshire	76	11
West Yorkshire	20	7
Humberside	11	9
TOTAL	280 (a)	60 (a)

(a) Totals do not sum due to rounding of figures.

- 4.4 The extent to which planning policy can influence the sales of crushed rock aggregate from the National Park during the plan period is constrained by the extent of existing permitted reserves. Largely as a result of old planning permissions, 55% of North Yorkshire's crushed rock reserves are at sites within the National Park. Permitted reserves at National Park quarries at 1st January 1995 amounted to 175.5 mt. (Table 5B) and these reserves correspond to about 41 years of sales at current rates. Nevertheless, it is essential to commence the process whereby mineral production from sites within the Yorkshire Dales moves towards a position which is compatible with the principles set by national minerals policies including the objectives of sustainable development.
- 4.5 In pursuit of a more sustainable approach to minerals planning, the future crushed rock requirement within North Yorkshire has been apportioned so as to reduce, progressively, the proportion of the provision from the National Park.
- 4.6 To achieve this proportional reduction, the apportionment between the Yorkshire Dales National Park and the rest of North Yorkshire has been calculated on the basis that the forecast increased demand for crushed rock aggregate will be met from quarries outside the National Park. Accordingly the total contribution from the National Park for the 15 years of the plan (1992-2006) has been assessed as 15 times the average annual sales over the period 1991-1993. This corresponds to a total provision of 62 mt (15 x 4.13 mt) of crushed rock aggregate over the 15 year period from 1992-2006.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP1 THE PROPORTION OF CRUSHED ROCK AGGREGATE PROVISION IN NORTH YORKSHIRE TO BE SUPPLIED FROM THE YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK WILL BE PROGRESSIVELY REDUCED.

PROVISION IS MADE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF 62 MT OF CRUSHED ROCK AGGREGATE DURING THE PERIOD 1992 TO 2006.

- 4.7 Provision is made in the North Yorkshire Minerals Local Plan, for meeting the balance of the 176 mt forecast requirement, that is for 114 mt.

- 4.8 The North Yorkshire Minerals Local Plan envisages that the annual level of crushed rock output will increase over the plan period, rising from 4.4 mt in 1992 to reach 9.0 mt by 2006. This would mean that the contribution from the National Park quarries would have fallen from 47% in 1992 to 31% of the total by 2006. This reduction is consistent with the trend recorded over the five years from 1989 to 1993 when the proportion has fallen from 49% to 45% (Table 2).
- 4.9 It will be necessary to monitor the level of sales and the forecast demand throughout the period of this Plan and to update it as necessary to set the provision for crushed rock production at a level which is appropriate to maintain the proportional reduction sought by this Plan.
- 4.10 Comparison between the provision for crushed rock set out in Policy MLP1 and permitted reserves indicates the following situation:

Crushed Rock Aggregate

Yorkshire Dales apportionment 1992-2006	62mt
Less sales for 1992, 1993, 1994	<u>13mt</u>
Requirement for 1995-2006	49mt
Plus 10 year landbank 2007-2016	<u>41mt</u>
Total requirement for 1995-2016	90mt
Permitted reserves at 1.1.95	<u>176mt</u>
SURPLUS above requirement at 1.1.95	<u>86mt</u>

- 4.11 The level of permitted reserves has been increased by 37mt by the issue in 1996 of planning permission for the deepening of Swinden Quarry. As a result the reserves are more than four times the requirement for the plan period up to 2006 and over double the total requirement up to 2016 to maintain a landbank for crushed rock throughout and at the end of the plan period. The permitted reserves are made up of Carboniferous Limestone and gritstone (high specification aggregate), which have different physical characteristics and different end uses (Chapter 3). The levels of permitted reserves for each of these materials are set out in Table 5 and Table 5B. The reserves of both Carboniferous Limestone and gritstone are in excess of the requirement for the plan period and for up to and beyond 2016. Other than in exceptional circumstances there is no need during the plan period, to release new areas of land for the production of crushed rock aggregate. Land will not be allocated in the plan for new mineral workings or extensions to existing workings.
- 4.12 It is recognised that there may be instances where extensions to quarries as part of a comprehensive scheme could result in planning benefits. Extensions may involve enlarging the quarry boundaries or working area, deepening an existing quarry, or lengthening the time period for working. Where overall benefits are identified by the National Park Authority, extensions to quarries or variations to existing permissions may be permitted, although it is not envisaged that these will lead to a significant net increase of permitted reserves.

SAVED POLICY

Policy MLP2 OTHER THAN IN EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES, PROPOSALS FOR QUARRYING TO PRODUCE CRUSHED ROCK FOR AGGREGATES FROM NEW SITES WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. EXTENSIONS TO EXISTING QUARRIES WILL BE PERMITTED ONLY WHERE THEY WOULD RESULT IN OVERALL BENEFITS WHICH

COULD INCLUDE BENEFITS TO THE ENVIRONMENT OR RESIDENTIAL AMENITY.

- 4.13 National guidance on the calculation and maintenance of a landbank, a stock of planning permissions for the winning and working of minerals, is given in MPG6. The guidance indicates that, in the case of sand and gravel the landbank should be sufficient for at least 7 years extraction, but that an unspecified longer period may be appropriate for crushed rock. The National Park Authority considers that 10 years is the appropriate period for a crushed rock landbank for the National Park.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP3 WHERE IT IS APPROPRIATE TO DETERMINE A LANDBANK REQUIREMENT FOR CRUSHED ROCK A PERIOD OF 10 YEARS WILL BE USED IN THE CALCULATION.

- 4.14 MPG6 advises that, in preparing development plans, mineral planning authorities, should be able to demonstrate that resources have been identified or can be brought forward to maintain a landbank of permitted reserves at the end of the plan period. Because of the large surplus of existing permitted reserves above requirement, these resources are already available in the National Park and no further provision is required in this Plan.

5 OTHER MINERALS

Industrial Limestone

- 5.1 The Yorkshire Dales contains resources of high and very high purity limestones suitable for some of the highest specification industrial uses. Four out of the five existing limestone quarries, Horton, Swinden, Threshfield and Giggleswick, were formerly operated principally to supply limestone for lime burning. A major customer of these quarries was the iron and steel industry and the need to supply that industry was used to justify large extensions at these sites. All four of the quarries were linked to the railway network.
- 5.2 An extension was permitted, following an appeal, at Cool Scar Quarry in 1987. This was justified on the grounds that it was in the national interest for the site to supply the particularly pure Cove Limestone for the manufacture of high purity chemical grade magnesia. Time and production limits were imposed by the Secretary of State. The end use was not covered by condition and, notwithstanding that decision, the contract to supply limestone for the manufacture of chemical grade magnesia was shortly afterwards awarded to another quarry in the National Park.
- 5.3 In recent years the limestone quarries have been operated primarily to produce aggregates. Between 1989 and 1993 the proportion of non-aggregate sales has declined from 5% to only 2.2% of total sales. This figure includes uses such as building stone and agricultural lime in addition to industrial limestone.
- 5.4 It is of major concern that high purity limestones, worked at National Park quarries, are being used predominantly as aggregates. This is an inappropriate use of high quality materials and is contrary to the stated objectives of sustainable development. Because of the high level of existing permitted reserves and the present absence of end-use controls, the Authority has only limited scope to influence the situation at the present time. However, the National Park Authority will oppose new proposals for the quarrying of high purity limestone for purposes where a high chemical purity is not essential. Where it is considered necessary to control the extraction of high purity limestone, this may be achieved for new development by the imposition of appropriate conditions or through a planning agreement.
- 5.5 The total volume of limestone required during the plan period for industrial end uses can be readily provided from existing reserves and there is no need to identify additional reserves for non-aggregate end uses.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP4

PROPOSALS FOR THE EXTRACTION OF LIMESTONE OF A HIGH CHEMICAL PURITY FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN FOR WHICH A HIGH CHEMICAL PURITY IS ESSENTIAL WILL BE OPPOSED.

Limestone Pavement

- 5.6 Weathered limestone from surface outcrops and pavement was until recently being worked at Winskill Stones, north of Settle for sale as rockery stone. Planning permission for the working was granted in 1951 by the former planning authority. The site has been purchased by a conservation body and working of the limestone pavement has now ceased. Rockery stone has also been extracted from areas of limestone pavement at quarry sites prior to the main quarrying operation. The only pavement remaining at a quarry is at Horton where the surface limestones have already been extensively worked.

- 5.7 Limestone pavements form a characteristic and important part of the scenery of the Yorkshire Dales. About 50% of the total area of limestone pavements in the country are within the National Park. The pavements are of ecological, geological and archaeological importance and substantial areas of pavement are within SSSIs and proposed Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and subject to the EC's Habitat Directive relating to Limestone Pavement. There are also areas of limestone pavement outside SSSIs, which are of considerable interest. The Countryside Commission and English Nature have notified the National Park Authority of pavements which merit protection. Several of these have already been made the subject of Limestone Pavement Orders and a programme for making further Orders is being followed. The National Park Authority is very strongly opposed to the working or disturbance of limestone pavements and supports the work of the Limestone Pavement Forum and its campaign to draw public attention to the damage caused by the quarrying of these features.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP5

PROPOSALS INVOLVING THE REMOVAL OF OR DAMAGE TO LIMESTONE PAVEMENTS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

Building Stone

- 5.8 Building stone has, in the past, been quarried at numerous sites throughout the National Park to supply materials for the construction of the houses, barns and other buildings which are characteristic of the Yorkshire Dales. In the main these have been small scale operations supplying local needs. Thinly-bedded sandstones have also been extensively quarried and mined to provide stone roofing 'slates'.
- 5.9 Some of the aggregate quarries produce small quantities of building stone and there is also a small quarry at Hill Top, Keld producing sandstone building stone and flags and some roofing 'slates'. With these exceptions, building and roofing stone has to be obtained from quarries outside the National Park or by re-using materials from existing buildings. There are clearly disadvantages if existing buildings are being damaged or demolished to provide a source of building materials. The Authority wishes to encourage the establishment of small scale building stone quarries to serve local needs, provided this can be done without significant detriment to natural beauty, areas of nature conservation importance or to residential amenity. A study to examine potential sites for the production of stone roofing 'slates' has been undertaken and it is hoped that this will result in the establishment of a local source of these materials.

SAVED POLICY

Policy MLP6

PROPOSALS FOR THE QUARRYING OF BUILDING STONE OR ROOFING SLATES FOR USE WITHIN THE NATIONAL PARK OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT AREAS WILL BE SUPPORTED PROVIDED THE SCALE OF QUARRYING IS APPROPRIATE TO SERVE THE LOCAL MARKET AND THE QUARRYING WILL NOT BE DAMAGING TO THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

Vein Minerals

- 5.10 Lead and associated minerals have been mined from extensive areas of the National Park and the remains of the industry are seen in many locations. The industry declined after the first half of the 19th Century and in more recent years working has been confined to small scale mining of fluorspar and barytes and the re-working of waste heaps. A number of planning permissions were

granted some years ago for these activities, but these operations have become uneconomic and have closed down. The list of mineral sites prepared by the National Park under the requirements of the Environment Act, 1995 includes permissions for surface and underground working of vein minerals at Old Gang near Reeth and from an area to the north east of Appletreewick and for the working of spoil heaps on Grassington Moor. There is little evidence that there will be any significant interest in working any additional sites during the period of this Plan. Any proposals received will be determined in accordance with development plan policies and national guidelines for mineral working in national parks, including whether there is a need in national terms for the development. In line with Government policy, major developments will not be permitted save in exceptional circumstances.

- 5.11 In many areas the structures and features remaining from the lead mining industry are of archaeological importance and the National Park is investing resources in recording and consolidation work. In addition, the high metal content of some of the waste heaps restricts flora to rare, metal-tolerant species which are worthy of protection.
- 5.12 Because of the small scale of the working of vein minerals and waste heaps in recent years few problems have been encountered in the National Park in respect of the disposal of waste from these operations. Nevertheless, the disposal of such waste and, in particular the waste slurry from processing plants, can result in significant environmental and other problems. Any proposals for working of this type will be required to include full details of measures to dispose of waste materials.

Oil and Gas

- 5.13 The geological structure of the National Park, consisting principally of the fault bounded Askrigg Block, is thought to hold little prospect of significant finds of oil or gas. In the past Exploration Licences for parts of the Craven Basin have included small areas on the southern edge of the National Park and some seismic exploration work has been undertaken.
- 5.14 There are no current Licences covering any part of the National Park. It is considered unlikely that, with the possible exception of areas bordering the Craven Basin, the National Park will attract further exploration during the Plan period. Any proposals in respect of exploration, appraisal or production will be dealt with in accordance with development plan policies and in particular the oil and gas policies contained in the County Structure Plans.

6 DISPOSAL OF MINERAL WASTE

- 6.1 The volume of waste produced by a mineral working operation is dependent on a number of factors including the characteristics of the rock, the markets available and the design of the processing plant. It may, for example, be possible for an operator to make changes in the processing to produce different sizes of material or to alter the tonnages of the various sizes which are produced. Where this enables a greater proportion of the mineral to be sold, the volume of waste is correspondingly reduced.
- 6.2 At most of the quarries in the National Park, because of the nature of the geology, the volume of soils and overburden to be stripped and the volume of waste produced during processing is relatively small. Restoration schemes will normally incorporate the use of all available soil and overburden materials to achieve satisfactory restoration. In some instances the small volumes of soil occurring at the site will limit the type and extent of the restoration that can be achieved. Mineral waste from working or processing will in most circumstances provide materials which can be used on site to enhance landscaping and restoration work and, in appropriate circumstances, to supplement soil materials.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP7 WHERE PERMISSION IS GRANTED FOR MINERAL EXTRACTION AND IN REVIEWING MINERAL WORKING SITES, ALL SOIL AND OVERBURDEN MATERIALS STRIPPED FROM A SITE WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE RETAINED SEPARATELY FOR USE IN THE RESTORATION OF THE SITE. MINERAL WASTE WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE DEPOSITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SCHEME WHICH WILL ENHANCE THE LANDSCAPING OR RESTORATION AT THE SITE WHERE IT IS BEING PRODUCED OR AT A PREVIOUSLY WORKED BUT UNRESTORED SITE.

- 6.3 Where mineral waste has been incorporated into a landscaping or restoration scheme, the reworking of the material would usually create further disturbance to the environment and local amenity and would often be detrimental to the quality of the original scheme. In other instances, for example at sites where vein minerals have been worked, the deposit may have been in place for a sufficient period for it to have become a part of the local landscape such that its disturbance would not be acceptable.

SAVED POLICY

Policy MLP8 PROPOSALS FOR THE REWORKING OF MINERAL WASTE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED WHERE THE LAND HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY RESTORED OR THE DEPOSIT HAS BECOME ASSIMILATED INTO OR HAS BECOME CHARACTERISTIC OF THE LOCAL LANDSCAPE.

7 SECONDARY AND RECYCLED MATERIALS

- 7.1 The Government's guidelines contained in MPG6 envisage that 12% of aggregate demand in England during the period 1992 to 2006 will be met by secondary and recycled materials. The major sources of these are from previously discarded wastes such as colliery shale and power station ash or from the re-use of construction aggregates resulting from redevelopment schemes or road reconstruction.
- 7.2 The wastes deposited from earlier mining and quarrying activities in the National Park are unlikely to be of interest for re-use on any significant scale because of their isolated location and generally unsuitable composition. In addition, where the waste has become a part of the landscape re-working may not be acceptable.
- 7.3 Because of the general absence of large scale development within the National Park, the scope for the recycling of demolition and construction wastes is limited. The main area where recycling could be achieved is the re-use of road construction and surfacing materials and it is important to avoid these being disposed of as waste.

SAVED POLICY

Policy MLP9

THE RE-USE AND RECYCLING OF DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS WILL BE ENCOURAGED. PROPOSALS FOR THE DEPOSITION AS WASTE OF DEMOLITION OR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS WHICH COULD REASONABLY BE RE-USED OR RECYCLED WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

8 THE CONTROL OF MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

Introduction

- 8.1 The extent to which mineral working has an impact on the environment and on local amenity is partly dependent on the manner in which the development and its associated activities are operated. Control over approved development is obtained through formal means, principally planning conditions and legal agreements, but can also be influenced by liaison with the companies operating the sites.

Monitoring of Mineral Workings

- 8.2 Regular and frequent monitoring of mineral workings is essential to ensure that operations are being carried out in accordance with planning conditions and agreements. Within the National Park, mineral workings operate under planning permissions which range from those which include the most basic of conditions to modern permissions with an up-to-date range of conditions. The modern permissions usually contain conditions requiring the company to submit annual monitoring reports.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP10 NEW PERMISSIONS WILL BE SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL MONITORING REPORTS COVERING WORKING, RESTORATION AND AFTERCARE OF THE SITE.

- 8.3 The National Park Authority has established a Minerals and Quarries Committee which holds liaison meetings with operating companies on a regular basis. This enables a full discussion of issues to take place between Members and representatives of the operators. The liaison meetings are particularly relevant where companies are required to submit annual monitoring reports.

The Review of Mineral Permissions

- 8.4 Within the National Park there are a number of both active and dormant mineral working sites which are covered by old planning permissions with inadequate conditions. The 1981 Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Act and the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act placed a duty on Mineral Planning Authorities to review mineral working sites. The review procedures have not proved to be particularly effective and within the National Park progress has been made through negotiated improvements and consolidating permissions.
- 8.5 The registration of Interim Development Orders (IDOs), which were originally granted between 1943 and 1948, was introduced by the 1991 Planning and Compensation Act. Two registration applications were received in the National Park. One of these, at Threshfield Quarry, was subsequently withdrawn and the other, at Horton Quarry, was registered. An up-to-date working and restoration scheme for the registered Horton Quarry permission has been approved.

- 8.6 Regulations contained in the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc) Regulations 1994 (the Habitats Regulations) require local planning authorities to review extant planning permissions which are likely to have a significant effect on sites classified as Special Protection Areas (SPA) or designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC). If the integrity of a site would be adversely affected, the Authority must take appropriate action to remove the potential for harm. For example, planning obligations restricting the use of land or modification or revocation of the permission might be sought. The National Park will work closely with English Nature when reviewing such sites.
- 8.7 The Environment Act, 1995 requires a review and updating of mineral site permissions where the predominant permission was granted before 22nd February 1982. All relevant sites within national parks are Phase I sites to be dealt with in the initial phase of the review. The legislation also introduces a duty for periodic reviews of all minerals sites, including IDO permissions, every 15 years.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP11 MINERALS PERMISSIONS WILL BE REVIEWED TO OBTAIN IMPROVED SCHEMES AND CONDITIONS WHICH WILL REMOVE OR MINIMISE THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE MINERAL WORKING ON THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL AMENITY

Mineral Working and Processing

- 8.8 Mineral working and processing can have a very considerable impact on the environment and local amenity. The National Park Authority will seek to minimise the day to day impact by seeking "best practice" in all aspects of site operation and working practice. Operators will be required to comply with all planning conditions but will also be expected to upgrade their operations to maintain the best modern standards. A number of companies together with their trade federation, the Quarry Products Association have produced Environmental Codes. The member companies of the Quarry Products Association have committed themselves to developing an Environmental Management System and to adopting the standards laid out in the Code.
- 8.9 Planning control is only one of the statutory controls covering mineral working and processing. For example the Environment Agency is responsible for policing and protecting the quality of surface and underground waters. The Environment Agency document "Policy and Practice for the Protection of Groundwater" sets out policy guidelines on the acceptability of mineral extraction and waste disposal in areas where aquifers are at risk. Quarry processing at the quarries in the National Park is covered by Local Authority Air Pollution Control (LAAPC) and the District Councils are the enforcing authority at these sites.
- 8.10 The introduction of modern techniques and controls have reduced some of the adverse impacts of quarrying. Modern blasting techniques have reduced vibration and noise from quarry blasting and have reduced the level of complaints about this aspect of quarrying. At sites where modern or updated plants have been constructed, the level of air pollution has been significantly reduced. Improved measures for the treatment of water prior to discharge have also led to improved water quality in local streams. Nevertheless, although improvements have been achieved at some sites, much remains to be done at others and the National Park Authority will continue to press for improvements.

8.11 The main areas of concern and accordingly the areas where there is the greatest need for improvement are:

- i) Lorry movements to and from the quarries and the times at which these operate (considered further in paragraphs 8.12 to 8.20 of this section of the Plan);
- ii) Noise from quarrying operations and in particular from crushing and screening plant, the loading of dumpers, vehicle reversing sirens and excessively noisy mobile plant such as rock breakers;
- iii) Dirt and mud on the public highway at quarry entrances;
- iv) Dust arising from processing plant and quarrying operations including vehicle movements along unsurfaced or dirty internal haul roads.

The adverse impacts of these factors affect not only the amenity of local residents but are also harmful to the quiet enjoyment of the natural beauty of the National Park. The National Park Authority have produced, for supplementary planning guidance, a Code of Practice for Mineral Working and Processing and will have regard to this Code when imposing conditions on planning permissions and in any review of mineral workings. Voluntary adherence to the Code, including improvements at those sites which do not meet the standards, will be sought as appropriate, for example, through regular liaison meetings with site operators. The Code will be reviewed and amended as necessary to keep it in line with modern standards.

Hours of Mineral Working, Processing and Transport

8.12 When granting planning permission for mineral working, the National Park Authority have sought to restrict working to the day time during weekdays and on Saturday mornings. The Authority takes the view that mineral working, processing and the transport of minerals is not usually acceptable outside these times, particularly within a National Park.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP12 PROPOSALS WHICH WOULD INVOLVE THE WORKING, PROCESSING OR TRANSPORTATION OF MINERALS BY ROAD OUTSIDE THE FOLLOWING TIMES:-

06.00 - 17.00 HOURS MONDAYS TO FRIDAYS
06.00 - 12.00 HOURS SATURDAYS

WILL ONLY BE PERMITTED WHERE IT CAN BE DEMONSTRATED THAT THERE WILL BE NO MATERIAL DAMAGE TO THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL AMENITY.

8.13 Problems have been encountered, at a number of sites, with lorries arriving well before quarry opening time to queue to await loading. This leads to unnecessarily early disturbance. The problem, where it occurs, will be discussed on a site by site basis with the operating company and appropriate local solutions will be sought.

The Transport of Minerals and Mineral Products

- 8.14 Out of the total annual sales of aggregate from National Park quarries of over 4 mt, approximately 3.5 mt is transported by road. The remaining 0.5 mt is carried by rail from Swinden Quarry to depots and plants in Leeds and Hull.
- 8.15 The road transport of minerals and mineral products within the National Park is concentrated on the B6265 and B6160 between Kilnsey and Skipton, the B6479 between Horton-in-Ribblesdale and Settle and a short length of the B6255 at Ingleton. The majority of the traffic moves southwards down Wharfedale and Ribblesdale to serve the major markets in West Yorkshire and Lancashire. There is a lower but significant level of movement northwards from Ribblesdale and eastwards from Grassington towards Pateley Bridge and Ripon.
- 8.16 The effects of the large numbers of lorries travelling from the Wharfedale and Ribblesdale quarries in particular is a source of constant concern and complaint. A 12 hour survey was undertaken by the County Council in the Grassington area in October 1991. The survey recorded 1365 HGV movements of which 1236 were quarry vehicles. The B6265 south of Threshfield and the B6479 south of Horton-in-Ribblesdale are defined as Category II Secondary Distributors in the Advisory Hierarchy of Roads for the National Park. The function of these roads is to link important local centres of population within or close to the National Park with each other and with the Primary Distributors. Since they often pass through villages and contain stretches of relatively steep and narrow road, their capacity is somewhat limited and they are unsuited to long-distance, heavy, commercial traffic. The roads in question have been widened and straightened over parts of their length primarily to provide more satisfactory routes for quarry traffic.
- 8.17 The large number of quarry vehicles on the lower Wharfedale and Ribblesdale roads has a major impact on the environment of those parts of the National Park and on the amenity of local residents. All HGVs may be a source of noise, dirt and spray even when driven in a responsible manner. These problems are compounded by vehicles travelling at excessive speeds and by night-time, early morning and Sunday journeys. The National Park Authority does not consider it acceptable for quarry traffic to operate outside the hours set down in Policy MLP12.
- 8.18 In the past, the majority of the quarries in the National Park were linked to the railway network and large volumes of mineral were carried by rail. Today only Swinden and Ribblesdale quarries retain their rail links. Ribblesdale Quarry is not worked at present although the rail sidings have been used in the past for the transport of rail ballast produced at Ingleton Quarry. The rail handling facilities at Swinden Quarry have recently been upgraded and a new train has been introduced to serve a new aggregate depot at Cross Green in Leeds. Grant aid under Section 8 of the Railways Act, 1974 was obtained for this work and the application was supported by the National Park Committee.
- 8.19 The increased use of rail facilities in place of road transport would be of considerable benefit to the National Park and its communities. Problems associated with the use of routes in the National Park by quarry haulage vehicles would be reduced provided that increased rail transport results in reduced road haulage and is not introduced in addition to the existing levels of road transport. Horton and Arcow quarries retain the potential for the reinstatement of their railway sidings and rail links may be possible at other sites.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP13 IN THE CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS FOR MINERAL EXTRACTION, THE INCREASED USE OF RAIL FOR THE TRANSPORT OF QUARRY PRODUCTS WILL BE SOUGHT WHENEVER OPPORTUNITIES ARISE, AND THE PROVISION OF SIDINGS AND ASSOCIATED WORKS AT THOSE QUARRIES NOT PRESENTLY CONNECTED TO THE RAIL NETWORK WILL BE SUPPORTED. (POLICY TR12 - YORKSHIRE DALES LOCAL PLAN).

- 8.20 The transport of minerals by road on routes through the National Park is also a matter of concern to the National Park Authority. The movements of particular concern are those via Ribblesdale and Wensleydale to the North East of England and between Grassington and Pateley Bridge. The Authority will seek where possible to limit mineral traffic through the National Park to that required to serve local needs and will seek the co-operation of the minerals industry to prevent roads in the National Park being used by through minerals traffic.

Industrial Processes

- 8.21 In addition to crushing and screening plant, a number of quarries in the National Park have additional manufacturing or industrial processes located at the site. There are roadstone coating plants at Dry Rigg and Arcow, and block making works at Swinden. The comment is frequently made that minerals can only be worked where they occur. Most manufacturing or industrial processes do not, however, have to be located at the mineral working site. For example, there is an increasing trend for roadstone coating plants to be located at industrial sites close to the urban areas where their main markets occur. There are economic and operational advantages to this market location, which also results in environmental advantages in the area of the quarry.
- 8.22 In locating such processes at quarry sites there are a number of potentially adverse impacts on the environment and local amenity which must be considered. These may result from increased noise, dust, steam or other emissions from the plant or less directly from extended hours of operation or transport of products. Lime burning is a continuous process requiring 24 hour operations and, in some circumstances, night time transport. Coated roadstone is required to be delivered to site when it is required for laying. This often involves early morning or, with the increasing move to carry out road works overnight, night-time journeys. There may therefore be significant disadvantages in having such plants located at a quarry site, particularly as it appears that the extent of night-time roadworks is likely to increase further in order to minimise traffic delays.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP14 PROPOSALS FOR THE SITING OF MANUFACTURING OR INDUSTRIAL PROCESSING PLANTS, INCLUDING ROADSTONE COATING PLANTS, WILL NOT BE APPROVED WHERE THESE WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL AMENITY OR WOULD BE LIKELY TO GENERATE TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS WHICH WOULD BE CONTRARY TO POLICY MLP12.

Landscaping and Restoration

- 8.23 Where modern permissions have been granted full details of landscaping and restoration works will have been approved. Some of the older permissions require the submission of schemes for approval while others make little if any provision for either landscaping or restoration. The National Park Authority places great importance on the progressive restoration and landscaping of mineral working sites and expects such work to be carried out to the highest possible standards. All landscaping and restoration work must have regard to and be appropriate for the landscape of the surrounding countryside and should be designed to form an appropriate part of a comprehensive scheme for the whole site. Trees and shrubs used in planting schemes should normally be locally native species.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP15 DETAILED AND PROGRESSIVE LANDSCAPING, RESTORATION AND AFTERCARE SCHEMES WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ANY NEW PERMISSION FOR MINERAL EXTRACTION AND WILL BE SOUGHT FOR ALL EXISTING MINERAL WORKING SITES.

- 8.24 The effectiveness of a landscaping and restoration scheme is frequently dependent on the extent and quality of the maintenance work undertaken as part of the scheme. If schemes are not properly maintained the results can be harmful to the visual appearance of the area or to agricultural or nature conservation interests.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy MLP16 ALL NEW LANDSCAPING AND RESTORATION SCHEMES FOR MINERAL WORKING SITES WILL BE REQUIRED TO INCORPORATE DETAILED PROVISIONS FOR THEIR MAINTENANCE DURING THE WORKING IN ORDER TO SECURE THE PROPER ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANTING, SEEDING AND OTHER WORKS.

The Duration of Planning Permissions

- 8.25 The Town and Country Planning (Minerals) Act, 1981 requires all planning permissions for mineral working to be subject to a time condition, requiring development to cease not later than the expiration of 60 years or such longer or shorter period as the mineral planning authority may specify. Permissions existing on 22nd February 1982, which are not already time-limited, become time-expired on 22nd February 2042.
- 8.26 The National Park Authority consider it to be of the utmost importance for end-dates to be established for mineral workings. All new permissions will be time-limited and, where appropriate, the Authority will also seek planning obligations.

Aftercare and Afteruse

- 8.27 Within the National Park the appropriate afteruses for mineral working sites will usually be agriculture, woodland, nature conservation or a combination of these. It is considered important for the proposed afteruse to be identified for each mineral working proposal and for the working

and restoration schemes to be designed accordingly.

- 8.28 Under existing legislation the maximum period of aftercare is five years from the completion of restoration. This may be adequate for agricultural restoration where the site is to be managed as part of a farm unit, but it does not usually provide for an adequate period of management and maintenance for sites restored for a nature conservation or woodland afteruse. In most cases satisfactory restoration for nature conservation can probably best be achieved if management of the site is undertaken by a nature conservation organisation with provision made for adequate funding.

SAVED POLICY

Policy MLP17 ALL MINERAL WORKING PROPOSALS WILL BE REQUIRED TO INCLUDE DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED AFTERUSE OF THE SITE. PLANNING OBLIGATIONS WILL BE SOUGHT WHERE APPROPRIATE TO SECURE THE LONG TERM MANAGEMENT OF THE SITE.

9 WASTE DISPOSAL

9.1 The low density of population and the nature of the local economy means that the total volumes of waste generated within the National Park are relatively low. Household and commercial waste, which increases with the influx of visitors during the summer months, is collected by the District Councils and disposed of by the County Waste Disposal Authorities. Waste from farming activities is normally used or disposed of on the farms themselves and waste from the working of minerals is also, on the whole, dealt with on site. At present, with the exception of a small, private works site at Embsay, there are no licensed waste disposal sites within the National Park.

Household, Industrial and Commercial Waste

9.2 Disposal of the general waste from households, industrial operations and commercial and public authority premises falls within the provisions of the Environmental Protection Act, 1990. The majority of such waste in both North Yorkshire and Cumbria is disposed of by controlled landfill. The household waste disposal site at Langcliffe Quarry in Ribblesdale closed in 1993 and the site is at present being restored.

9.3 Household waste is disposed of at sites outside the National Park boundary. From the Wensleydale and Swaledale areas of Richmondshire District Council, household waste is taken to the Catterick Bridge site while waste collected in Craven District Council is disposed of at Skibeden near Skipton. From the South Lakeland District area of the National Park, household waste is disposed of at Kendal Fell Quarry, Kendal. The majority of controlled waste, arising in the National Park, other than household waste, is also disposed of at these sites.

9.4 It is likely that for at least the period of this Local Plan, landfill will be relied upon for the disposal of the majority of household and other non-inert waste in the two County areas. Modern disposal sites to accommodate non-inert wastes require pollution control and gas collection measures, which must be built to high engineering standards. The sites are therefore expensive to establish and operate and require an appropriately high input of waste to justify their development. The concentration of population outside the National Park and the low volume of non-inert waste produced in the National Park, together with the wide geographical spread of its towns and villages, mean that the establishment of a site for the disposal of non-inert wastes solely from the area of the National Park would not be economic. Nor is it likely that such a site would meet the Government's "proximity principle", under which waste should be disposed of, or managed, close to the point at which it is generated. Moreover, if it were necessary for a disposal facility to be supported by the import of significant quantities of waste from outside the National Park then the development would be of a scale and nature that would be contrary to the objectives of National Park designation, to Government and Structure Plan policies that give the highest priority to protection of the National Park, and to the principles of sustainable development. During the plan period, therefore, household and other non-inert wastes should continue to be disposed of at sites outside the boundary of the National Park.

SAVED POLICY

Policy WLP1 **THE DISPOSAL OF HOUSEHOLD AND OTHER NON-INERT WASTES WITHIN THE NATIONAL PARK WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.**

Inert Waste

- 9.5 Inert waste is waste that will not physically or chemically react or undergo biodegradation within a landfill site, such as soil, rubble, concrete and other waste arising from construction. The North Yorkshire Draft Waste Disposal Plan, 1989, identified Upper Swaledale, Upper Wensleydale and Grassington as among the areas in which additional or replacement sites might be required for waste from the construction industry. However, there does not appear to be a major problem. The incidence of fly-tipping and unauthorised waste disposal is low and the situation has been eased, in the Wensleydale area, by the opening, in 1994, of a licensed site at Shawl Quarry, Leyburn, for the disposal of inert waste.
- 9.6 Nevertheless, the National Park Authority accepts the advantages of waste disposal close to the point at which it is generated, if it is practicable. Proposals for the disposal of inert waste arising from building or other work undertaken in the locality will be supported, therefore, provided that the proposals would not be harmful to the environment of the National Park. Small former quarries may be suitable for the disposal of such waste and landowners and farmers may have other small areas of land that could be improved for agricultural purposes by landfilling of inert waste.
- 9.7 Proposals to use a site within the National Park for the disposal of waste produced outside the immediate area of the National Park would be contrary to the established policies for the protection of National Parks and are unlikely to conform with the proximity principle for waste disposal. Any proposals to import significant quantities of waste into the National Park for disposal will, therefore, be strongly opposed. The minerals policies contained in this plan have been drawn up to ensure that all mineral working sites are fully restored to a beneficial afteruse without the importation of waste.
- 9.8 To minimise harm to the landscape and residential amenity and to avoid highway problems, proposals for landfilling with local inert waste should be strictly small scale. The National Park Authority will liaise closely with the Environment Agency, the District Council's Environmental Health Departments and other agencies in assessing the merits of particular proposals. Particular care will be taken to ensure that sites of nature conservation or archaeological value are safeguarded against landfilling proposals.

SAVED POLICY

Policy WLP2

PROPOSALS FOR THE DISPOSAL OF INERT WASTE PRODUCED WITHIN THE NATIONAL PARK WILL BE SUPPORTED PROVIDED THAT THE PROPOSALS:

- a) ARE SMALL IN SCALE, NORMALLY NOT EXCEEDING 0.4 HECTARES IN AREA;
- b) WILL NOT DETRACT SIGNIFICANTLY FROM THE SURROUNDING LANDSCAPE, WILDLIFE, ARCHAEOLOGICAL OR GEOLOGICAL INTEREST;
- c) WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT RESIDENTIAL AMENITY;
- d) WILL NOT CREATE SIGNIFICANT TRAFFIC PROBLEMS ON ACCESS OR APPROACH ROADS, OR SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT THE USE OF ANY PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY;

- e) WILL HAVE NO ADVERSE EFFECTS ON ANY WATER COURSE OR GROUND WATER.

PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY DETAILED TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE DISPOSAL OPERATIONS, LANDSCAPING, RESTORATION AND AFTERCARE OF THE SITE WILL BE CARRIED OUT TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS.

THE DISPOSAL OF INERT WASTE THAT HAS BEEN PRODUCED OUTSIDE THE NATIONAL PARK WILL NOT BE PERMITTED.

Civic Amenity Sites

- 9.9 A number of Civic Amenity Sites are provided by North Yorkshire and Cumbria County Councils. These contain skips where members of the public may deposit their bulkier household waste and in some cases the sites also provide a range of recycling facilities. There is a Civic Amenity Site at Langcliffe Quarry. Around the perimeter of the National Park there are sites at Leyburn, Skibeden, Catterick Bridge and Kendal.
- 9.10 The provision of Civic Amenity Sites is a useful facility for local communities and the National Park Authority will support proposals for additional sites where a suitable location can be found. However, for these sites to be satisfactory they must be supervised on a full time basis. In addition, the level of use of the facility must be sufficient to justify the costs of establishing and operating the site. In some areas it may be more cost effective for the District Councils to provide a more comprehensive collection service.

SAVED POLICY

Policy WLP3

PROPOSALS FOR THE PROVISION OF CIVIC AMENITY SITES WILL BE SUPPORTED WHERE THESE CAN BE ESTABLISHED AND OPERATED WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THE ENVIRONMENT INCLUDING RESIDENTIAL AMENITY.

WHERE APPROPRIATE, A LANDSCAPING AND PLANTING SCHEME WILL BE REQUIRED.

SITES WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE FENCED AND GATED TO PREVENT UNAUTHORISED ACCESS AND TO BE SUPERVISED DURING HOURS OF OPENING.

Local Recycling

- 9.11 The Environmental Protection Act, 1990, places a duty on District Councils to prepare Waste Recycling Plans. The Government White Paper "This Common Inheritance" sets a target for local authorities to recycle approximately 25% overall of household waste by the year 2000.
- 9.12 Facilities for the collection of materials for recycling have been established, by the County and District Councils and other organisations at a number of locations throughout the National Park. These include public car parks, shops, schools and village halls, and the materials normally collected are glass, paper, cans and textiles. The recycling of materials to avoid waste and to reduce the volume requiring disposal as waste is an essential element in achieving a sustainable economy and the National Park Authority will continue to give strong support to the collection of

materials for recycling. It will also examine its own practices and procedures to maximise the extent to which materials are recycled.

- 9.13 The provision of recycling facilities on a small scale may not constitute development requiring planning permission. Where permission is necessary, proposals will normally be considered favourably provided that amenity is safeguarded.

SAVED POLICY

Policy WLP4

PROPOSALS FOR THE SITING OF COLLECTION FACILITIES FOR LOCALLY GENERATED RECYCLABLE HOUSEHOLD WASTE WITHIN OR ADJACENT TO SETTLEMENTS WILL BE PERMITTED PROVIDED THAT RESIDENTIAL OR VISUAL AMENITY WOULD NOT BE SIGNIFICANTLY HARMED.

10 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

- 10.1 The Town and Country Planning (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988 implement the requirements of European Community Directive No. 85/337 and specify, in two schedules, types of development that may require formal environmental assessment.
- 10.2 Mineral working and waste disposal proposals fall within Schedule 2 of the Regulations which may require formal assessment where the planning authority considers there are likely to be significant effects on the environment. This includes significant impact on the special character of a national park.

THIS POLICY HAS NOT BEEN SAVED

Policy EA1

A FORMAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ALL MINERAL WORKING AND WASTE DISPOSAL PROPOSALS WHERE IT IS CONSIDERED, BY THE NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY, THEY WOULD HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT OR THE SPECIAL CHARACTER OF THE NATIONAL PARK.

11 REVIEW OF THE MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN

- 11.1 This plan has been drawn up on the basis of the most recent information available and regular monitoring of commercial, legislative and policy changes will be required to keep it up-to-date. The sections of the Plan dealing with minerals are based on 1993 sales figures and the assessment of future demand for aggregates issued by the Department of the Environment in MPG6 in April 1994. Demand forecasting is almost inevitably inaccurate and it is expected that revised forecasts will be published during the plan period which will require this Plan to be updated.
- 11.2 The Government is placing great emphasis on the principles of sustainable development in drawing up legislation and guidelines. If these principles are to be successfully implemented, the recycling of minerals and other materials, and the use of secondary minerals, will need to increase. Allowance is made in MPG6 for 12% of aggregate supply in England between 1992-2006 to be met from secondary and recycled sources. The extent to which this figure is met or exceeded will in turn affect the volume of mineral needing to be quarried and the void space required for waste disposal. Account will have to be taken therefore, of revised demand forecasts and the changing proportions of the demand which are to be met from primary and secondary sources.
- 11.3 The National Park Authority will monitor changes relevant to the Minerals and Waste Local Plan and will prepare a formal review not later than five years from the date of adoption of the Plan.