

Record of decision taken under delegated powers by a council officer



Title of consultation response:	Inclusion of shale gas production projects in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) regime
Decision taken under delegation by virtue of:	Scheme of Delegation Section 3, Part 1 – Scheme of Delegation to Officers paragraph 3.8 – Formal Responses to Government papers or other consultations

Summary

The Planning Development Group, as part of the Highways, Transport and Environment Service, is responding to Government consultation on the inclusion of shale gas projects in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) regime:

The County Council as Minerals Planning Authority (MPA) does not agree that shale gas production projects should be included in the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) regime. The MPA considers that the novel, controversial and industrial nature together with the scale and likely significant environmental impacts of unconventional hydrocarbon development warrants continued and full involvement of existing local democratic structures and the established plan-led system in determining whether such development should be granted planning permission. This would allow for the continued proper management of major mineral development in Surrey by the Minerals Planning Authority in accordance with the Development Plan (and any other material considerations) so as to meet the needs and expectations of its communities.

Decision made

Decision made:

It was AGREED to submit the proposed attached response to the consultation outlined above.

Reasons for Decision:

To retain the responsibility for determining these complex and often controversial applications within local democratic processes.

The responses to the consultation will be submitted to Government so that it can be considered in relation to any future decision on the proposal.

Consultation with Cabinet Member

Delegation can only be actioned by an officer after consulting the relevant portfolio holder. Please provide details below:

Decision taken by:	Jason Russell Executive Director Highways, Transport and Environment
Decision taken on:	8 th October 2018
Portfolio Holder	Mike Goodman Cabinet Member for Environment and Transport
Portfolio Holder consulted on	19 th September 2018
To be submitted on:	8 th October 2018

Declarations of conflicts of interest

None