

SUFFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL MINERALS
SPECIFIC SITE ALLOCATIONS DPD EXAMINATION

Position statement on behalf of Suffolk County Council

Main matter 2 – Site selection

Participants: Council; Bretts; Lafarge; Poundfield.

Agenda item 1) Extensions vs new sites

- The preference for extensions to existing sites in the Core Strategy and their location is reflected in the choice of proposed sites.

Agenda item 2) Excluded sites

- Kirton

- Excluded because of cumulative environmental impacts: visual intrusion; traffic; and, delayed restoration.

- Leavenheath

- Only acceptable as a left in and right turn out access, but with no guarantee the small size of the resource would not justify the cost of making highway improvements for traffic making a right turn into the site.

- Barking

- Significant detrimental change in the appearance of the landscape would result following extraction and there is not an overriding need for minerals to justify this.

- Creting St Mary

- The nearby County Wildlife Site is a water-dependant habitat (dependant on a tributary to the River Gipping) and extraction would have a negative impact on the biodiversity of this site.
- The working and restoration of the site is complicated by the differing quality of the underlying aggregate and the need for complex soil handling/movement arrangements. All this adds to the visual impact of extraction within the Special Landscape Area.
- The site would have a detrimental impact on the Gipping Valley Path.