

Recommendations:

a) That the Report is provided as a consultation response to inform the publication of the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan for North Yorkshire, York and the North York Moors National Park where it deals with issues relating to Hydraulic Fracturing ('Fracking').

Specifically we recommend:

- (i) That the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan includes spatial policy criteria relating to the location of shale gas operations such as:
 - proximity to the built environment, giving consideration to separation distances between the built environment and well sites and separation distances between well sites;
 - the impact of the proposed development on the surrounding landscape and other important environmental constraints.
 - (ii) That Policy M16 in the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan is made more explicit in terms of the criteria that will be applied to assess any cumulative impacts arising from a proliferation of well sites.
 - (iii) That Policy W02 in the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan provides specific reference as to how the waste (including the transportation of waste water) arising from the development of an onshore shale gas industry will be managed.
 - (iv) That the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan includes criteria seeking to protect aspects of the existing economy in those areas where shale gas operations are being proposed.
 - (v) That the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan includes guidance on those circumstances where financial provision may be required in the event that this cannot be secured through routine planning control.
 - (vi) That the finalised Minerals and Waste Joint Plan takes into account any relevant issues arising from the Cuadrilla Bowland Ltd. and Cuadrilla Elswick Ltd Public Inquiry where they are known in time to inform the content of the Plan.
 - (vii) That the timescale of any future review of the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan should be determined by the availability of information relating to the commercial viability of shale gas extraction in North Yorkshire, or changes in national policy.
- b) That the government, in particular the Department of Energy & Climate Change, is called upon to consider requiring the industry to develop mutual funds to pay for the occurrence of environmental contamination arising from shale gas operations.
- c) That the government, in particular the Department of Energy & Climate Change, is

called upon to consider ensuring that independent environmental baseline monitoring is made on-going beyond the first few well sites, in order to build up a comprehensive picture of different geological factors between site specific areas.

- d) That an immediate large-scale health-related baseline monitoring study is commissioned, paid for and led by an independent body such as Public Health England to identify any anomalies arising if and when a shale gas industry develops in North Yorkshire.
- e) That the Report is submitted to the Executive to inform the Executive's considerations regarding the petition considered by the Ryedale Area Committee on 10 June 2015.

Addendum: supplementary recommendation

The Scrutiny of Health Committee has made the following recommendation below. This is listed separately because it relates to new processes or practices that would be the responsibility of other regulatory bodies. These sit outside the purview of the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan but have relevance to providing public health assurance.

- f) It is recommended that:
 - Gas emissions are measured at known distances from existing sites as the industry develops and the information is published in real time;
 - Waste water is analysed before storage on site or transportation from the site and for this analysis to be made available to all emergency services prior to storage or transportation;
 - All cleansing processes are to be made known and if waste water is not to be cleaned on site all resulting movements to be declared; and
 - No waste water is to be reused without being cleaned.

**County Councillors Andrew Backhouse and Jim Clark
14 June 2016**

Appendices:

- Appendix 1: Minutes of the Joint Sub-Committee Meeting of the Transport, Economy and Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Scrutiny of Health Committee held on 22 January 2016.
- Appendix 2: Additional evidence provided by the external organisations following the meeting held on 22 January 2016.