

From: Johnny Flynn [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday 2 January 2023 18:44
To: Development Plan
Subject: Submission re dCDP 2023-2029 - Vol 1 - Amendment to CDP 8.14 Minerals , Mining and Quarrying.

Dear Chief Executive , Forward Planning

I refer to the above proposed amendment and request that the CDP 8.14 be amended to take into account the unanimously adopted notice of Motion I had placed on the agenda of the Clare County Council Dec 2022 statutory meeting . It is outlined in Appendix 1 below .

At that meeting the Chief Executive responded to the debate and the level of support for the notice of motion outlined that he would talk to the Planners about the benefit of supporting the existing CDP 8.14 by strengthening the wording in line with the notice of motion.

Request for amendment to the amendment.

I submit in light of the following ;
vulnerability of groundwater sources of public water supplies in Clare to the impacts of extractive industries ;
Need for greater protection of the visual quality of the receiving landscape ;
Need for greater protection of the environment and/or adjoining existing land uses
Need for greater use of recycled construction and demolition waste
Need for banning of the use of certain chemicals in the extractive industry processes that are harmful to the environment particularly to surface and groundwater .

that the CDP 8.14 be strengthened by the inclusion of additional wording such as in Leitrim’s dCDP which is

A) To ensure that the extraction of minerals and aggregates protects to the maximum practicable extent the visual quality of the receiving landscape and do not adversely affect the environment or adjoining existing land uses

B) The planning authority will not facilitate the development of the extractive industry and permit such workings unless it has been shown that the following criteria can be met; having taken into account the reduced demand for aggregates that will come about through improved recycling of construction and demolition waste:

- 1. The environment and the landscape will be safeguarded to the greatest possible extent during all life-cycle stages of the process,*
- 2. Such operations have good access to, or are within reasonable distance of, the national or regional road network and do not adversely affect the residential or tourism amenity of the area,*
- 3. Satisfactory provision will be made for a beneficial after use of the land that does not conflict with other planning objectives for the area,*
- 4. The working, landscaping, restoration and after-care of the site will be carried out to the highest standards in accordance with the approved scheme.*

C) Where proposals for the working out of minerals and aggregates are submitted in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty AONB or an Area of High Visual Amenity (AHVA), existing landscape quality shall remain the overriding priority and such proposals must illustrate that the benefits of the development will outweigh any adverse environmental consequences. The planning authority shall evaluate the need to conserve the environment, character and natural beauty of AONBs and AHVAs and the extent to which the proposed development would materially damaged these qualities. It shall also examine the national need for that specific mineral or aggregate substance to be worked and the availability of the resource in less sensitive locations.

D) regarding Gold ore mining

The use of the following chemicals as a processing agent shall not be permitted as part of any proposed processing operation located above or adjacent to surface or groundwaters, or which could potentially impact such Waters regardless of their location - mercury, cyanide or cyanide compounds, breakdown products of cyanide, or sulphuric acid. These present an unreasonable risk of environmental harm due to the toxicity of such chemicals and their demonstrated potential to cause damage to the environment.

Appendix 1.

- I ask Clare County Council to review and acknowledge more fully the potential of environmental impact of any existing and proposed extractive industries (including mining) and to amend the wording in Statutory documents such as the Draft County Development Plan to ensure best standards in order to protect the environment. Potential amended wording could be similar to the example in Leitrim's draft CDP as below ;

A) To ensure that the extraction of minerals and aggregates protects to the maximum practicable extent the visual quality of the receiving landscape and do not adversely affect the environment or adjoining existing land uses

B) The planning authority will not facilitate the development of the extractive industry and permit such workings unless it has been shown that the following criteria can be met; having taken into account the reduced demand for aggregates that will come about through improved recycling of construction and demolition waste:

- 1. The environment and the landscape will be safeguarded to the greatest possible extent during all life-cycle stages of the process,*
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Regards

Johnny Flynn, Cllr

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