



The Coal
Authority

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FAO: Planning Policy & Land Charges Team

BY EMAIL: planning.policy@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

6th October 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Swannington Neighbourhood Development Plan

Thank you for your notification received on the 5th September 2022 in respect of the above consultation.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. As a statutory consultee, The Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

Our records indicate that within the Neighbourhood Plan area there are recorded coal mining features present at surface and shallow depth including; mine entries, shallow coal workings and reported surface hazards. These features pose a potential risk to surface stability and public safety.

The Coal Authority's records also indicate that surface coal resource is present in the area, although this should not be taken to imply that mineral extraction would be economically viable, technically feasible or environmentally acceptable. As you will be aware those authorities with responsibility for minerals planning and safeguarding will have identified where they consider minerals of national importance are present in your area and related policy considerations. As part of the planning process consideration should be given to such advice in respect of the indicated surface coal resource.

It is noted that the Neighbourhood Plan includes at Figure 2 a proposed housing site allocation. I have reviewed this site against our data and can confirm that it does not appear that recorded coal mining legacy features are present in this area at surface or shallow depth. On this basis we have no specific comments to make on the

Neighbourhood Plan. However, should any additional sites be proposed for allocation in the Neighbourhood Plan we would expect these to be assessed against the downloadable GIS data, in respect of Development Risk and Surface Coal Resource plans, which we provide annually to the LPA.

Should you wish to discuss this further please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted Signature]

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Development Team Leader (Planning)

