Appendix 2: Glossary

**Abstraction:** The removal of water from a surface water source or from groundwater, usually for some use such as dust suppression or from an area of mineral extraction as part of the process of quarry dewatering.

**Active (status of quarry):** currently operational.

**Aftercare:** The cultivation, treatment and management of land, following completion of mineral working, creation of the final restoration landform and replacement of soils, to bring land to the required standard for use for agriculture, forestry or amenity.

**After-use:** The use of land after restoration for such activities as agriculture, forestry, nature conservation, public open space, recreation or other development.

**Alignment:** The line that the road follows, e.g. curve in the road, wiggle through village is the road alignment. Both these things could affect or cause problems for HGV movement in a mineral context.

**Alternative Aggregates:** Waste materials from industrial or non-aggregate mineral extraction, e.g. china clay or slate, which is suitable for use in construction work.

**Aggregate:** Crushed hard rock, such as limestone, or land-won or marine-dredged sand and gravel extracted and processed for use in construction.

**Aggregate Working Parties (AWP):** Groups providing technical advice to the Secretary of State in relation to the supply of, and demand for, aggregate minerals within a particular area.

**Annual Monitoring Report:** A report which monitors and reviews the delivery of the local development documents and identifies trends in minerals and waste and the usage of mineral and waste policies.

**Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB):** A national designation for the purpose of conserving and enhancing areas of high landscape value. Somerset contains the entirety of the Quantocks Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and parts of three others, the Blackdown Hills, the Mendip Hills and Cranborne Chase and West Wiltshire Downs.

**Apportionment:** The subdivision of Government guidelines for the supply of aggregates between regions in England. Sub-regional apportionment is the split of regional guidelines between individual Mineral Planning Authorities.

**Area of High Archaeological Potential:** Identified areas within the county where it is expected buried archaeology is likely to survive.

**Area of Search:** Area where there is some indication that economic mineral resources are present and planning permission for mineral extraction could be granted to meet any shortfall in supply, if suitable applications are made. Also see Preferred Area.
Back haul/back load: Where a lorry delivers materials and then returns with an alternative load, for example delivering primary aggregates and returning with waste minerals for reprocessing.

Blasting: The detonation of explosives to loosen rock and ore for excavation.

Borrow pit: A temporary mineral working to supply material for a specific construction project local to the pit.

Building Stone: A natural rock of adequate quality quarried and cut as dimension stone as it exists in nature.

Conservation Area: Area of special architectural or historic interest, the character of appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Crushed Rock: Naturally occurring rock which is extracted and crushed into a series of required sizes primarily to produce a construction aggregate.

Development Plan Document (DPD): Documents which form the statutory development plan and which contain planning policies and proposals.

Dewatering: The process of removing water, usually groundwater, from a quarry area to allow for the safe and efficient extraction of the mineral reserve.

Dormant (status of quarry): Defined in the Environment Act 1995 as a mineral site where no mineral development has taken place to any substantial extent in, on, or under the site at any time in the period 22nd February 1982 and 6th June 1995. A dormant site cannot be worked without agreeing modern working conditions with the Minerals Planning Authority.

Energy Minerals: Minerals used in the generation of energy, including shallow and deep-mined coal, oil and gas (including unconventional hydrocarbons such as shale gas).

Environmental Assessment: The method of determining the environmental impact of a development proposal often accompanying a planning application.

Geodiversity: The variety of rocks, minerals, fossils, landforms, sediments and soils, together with the natural processes which form and alter them.

Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA): Under European legislation an assessment is required for local development documents and for particular development projects in order that the integrity of internationally important nature sites is protected.

Inactive (status of quarry): Worked in the period 22nd February 1982 and 6th June 1995 and possibly post this period. Is not currently operational but has agreed working conditions and could reopen.
**Inert fill**: Waste material that is chemically and physically stable and innocuous which is sometimes used in the restoration of mineral extraction sites to alter the profile of land.

**Interim Development Order Permissions (IDOS)**: Mineral permissions granted after 21 July 1943 and before 1 July 1948, which have been preserved by successive planning Acts as valid planning permissions in respect of development which had not been carried out by 1 July 1948.

**Landbank**: A “stock” of mineral reserves within a particular planning authority area. Government guidance is for a landbank of at least ten years to be maintained for crushed rock and seven years for sand and gravel.

**Landscape Character Assessment**: An assessment of an area of England’s landscape that helps identify its important characteristics.

**Local Aggregate Assessment**: An annual report produced by the Mineral Planning Authority which sets the Mineral Planning Authorities apportionment based upon a rolling 10 years average sales figure.

**Local Nature Reserves**: Sites with nature conservation value which is significant at the local level. The designation does not carry any statutory protection.

**Marine-dredged aggregates**: Sand and gravel dredged from the seabed and landed at wharves for use as an aggregate.

**Mineral Consultation Area (MCA)**: An area considered to contain a mineral resource worthy of safeguarding within which district/borough councils are required to consult Somerset County Council on non-minerals development proposals which could lead to possible sterilisation.

**Mineral Planning Authority (MPA)**: The planning authority responsible for managing minerals development e.g. Somerset County Council

**Mineral Planning Guidance Note (MPG)**: National policy and advice documents on mineral planning issues gradually being replaced with Minerals Policy Statements (MPS), the majority of which have now been superseded by the NPPF.

**Mineral Reserve**: Minerals which have the benefit of valid planning permission for extraction (permitted reserves).

**Mineral Resource**: Concentration of useful minerals or rocks which are or could be economically extracted based on geological considerations only. A resource area will be defined without consideration given to planning constraints.

**Mineral Safeguarding Area (MSA)**: An area considered to contain an economically exploitable mineral resource which should be protected against sterilisation by other development.
Minerals: Naturally occurring materials usually extracted by underground or surface working or by dredging.


Minerals and Waste Development Framework: A series of documents for delivering the minerals strategy for an area, including the Minerals Core Strategy, Statement of Community Involvement and Annual Monitoring Reports.

Minerals Local Plan: A comprehensive set of minerals policies designed to manage mineral development within the planning authority area. The adopted document for Somerset covers the period from 1997 – 2011.

Minerals Policy Statement (MPS): National policy guidance for minerals development. They will replace guidance currently found in Minerals Planning Guidance Notes. These have now been superseded by the NPPF.

National Nature Reserve: Area of national and sometimes international importance for wildlife and nature conservation. Many such reserves are also Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF): A framework which sets out the Governments planning policies for England and how these are expected to be implemented.

Overburden: Material which has to be removed before a mineral can be worked.

Peat: A highly organic material found in marshy or damp regions, composed of partially decayed vegetable matter: it is cut and dried for use as fuel.

Peatlands: An extensive tract of land where peat has formed.

Planning Policy Statement (PPS): Documents containing national planning policy and supporting material such as good practice guides. They will eventually replace guidance found in Planning Policy Guidance Notes. These have now been superseded by the NPPF.

Polished Stone Value (PSV): A physical property of crushed rock aggregates which is measurable resistance to polishing. High polished stone value materials offer a high resistance to polishing and are important in road surfacing to improve skid resistance.

Permitted Reserve: See Mineral Reserve

Permitted Extraction: See Mineral Reserve
Preferred Area: Area of known mineral resource where planning permission could be granted for mineral extraction subject to meeting the development control policies and landbank requirements of the development plan.

Primary Aggregates: Naturally occurring sand, gravel and rock extracted for construction purposes. Also see recycled aggregates and alternative aggregates.
Ramsar: Sites identified as being of international importance for wetland habitats.

Recycled Aggregates: Recycled construction materials, produced from crushing and screening inert demolition waste, road planning etc.

Regional Aggregates Working Party (RAWP): Groups providing technical advice to the Secretary of State in relation to the supply of, and demand for, aggregate minerals within a particular area. These have now been replaced by Aggregate Working Parties (AWP).

Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS): Sites identified as being of geological and/or geomorphological interest with educational potential. There is no statutory protection of such areas.

Reserve: See Mineral Reserve

Resource: See Mineral Resource

Restoration: The return of land to its former use or another suitable and beneficial new use, once mineral extraction has been completed.

Review of Mineral Planning Permission (ROMP): Under the Environment Act 1995, Mineral Planning Authorities are required to undertake a review, every 15 years, of all existing planning permissions for winning and working of minerals. This provides for the updating of planning conditions attached to old planning permissions.

Safeguarding: The protection of proven mineral resources, i.e. are or could be of economic importance, against other types of development which would be serious hindrance to their extraction.

Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM): A site designated as being of national archaeological importance under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Act 1979.

Secondary Aggregates: Materials used as a replacement for primary aggregates including mineral by-products such as waste sand from china clay, industrial wastes such as slag and railway ballast, and industrial by products such as spent foundry sand.

Sites of Nature Conservation Importance: Area designated for its locally important wildlife. The designation does not carry any statutory protection.
**Special Areas of Conservation (SAC):** Site of Special Scientific Interest which is of international importance and designated under the European Habitats Directive of 1992.

**Special Protection Areas (SPA):** Site of Special Scientific Interest which is of international importance and protected under the European Birds Directive of 1979, for the conservation of rare and vulnerable birds.

**Specific Site:** Site identified for minerals development within the development plan.

**Statement of Community Involvement:** A document prepared as part of the development framework setting out when and how the community is to be involved in the preparation of the Minerals Development Framework.

**Sterilised:** The prevention of minerals extraction as a consequence of other development being situated on, or in close proximity to, minerals of economic importance.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA):** The analysis and evaluation of the environmental effects of a plan or programme as required by the European SEA Directive of 2001.

**Structure Plan:** Part of the development plan which sets the strategic base for land use planning and a realistic and consistent policy framework. The Somerset and Exmoor National Park Joint Structure Plan Review covers the period to 2011.

**Sustainability Appraisal:** The process of appraising the social, environmental and economic effects of policies so that decisions can be made that accord with the objectives of sustainable development.

**Sustainable Development:** The concept of meeting the needs of today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

**UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP):** A plan which describes the biological resource of the UK, and sets out aims and actions for conservation and enhancement of these resources.
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