

STANTON MOOR MINERALS LIAISON GROUP – REPLACEMENT CHAIR AND REVISED FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Proposal: Mineral Planning Authority to Chair meetings and number of meetings to be reduced to 2 per annum.

The Stanton Moor Minerals Liaison Group was formed by the planning committee in circa 2008 in order to facilitate a dialogue between the local community, mineral operators and the Peak District National Park as the Mineral Planning Authority. The group was formed due to the cluster of operational quarries in close proximity to Stanton Moor Scheduled Ancient Monument, the residential settlements, and due to the planning application proposing an exchange of historic mineral consents on the Moor itself, for an extension to an existing site beyond the heritage designation.

The planning committee appointed an independent Chair to the SMMLG due to the contentious nature of the proposals and potential impact on both the local communities and the mineral operators. The group has worked successfully to build relationships between the parties and manage the operation of quarries in a way that reduces amenity impacts.

New Pilhough Quarry has now ceased mineral extraction and is due to be fully restored by the end of 2026. The neighbouring Dale View Quarry has also ceased mineral extraction and is working through tip material to salvage the remaining saleable stone before commencing restoration of the site such that operations will cease earlier than the consented 2028 end date. Birchover Quarry continues to operate in accordance with its planning permission and is not causing concern to the local communities. There are currently no known proposals in the pipeline for future mineral extraction in the Stanton Moor area.

Given the above, it is no longer considered necessary for there to be an independent Chair of the liaison group. As such it was agreed at the last meeting of the group (15/01/25) that the PDNPA as the MPA would Chair the meetings going forward. In addition, it was also agreed that the frequency of meetings be reduced from quarterly to bi-annually given the wind down of operations at two of the existing quarries. The appointment of a replacement Chair and amended frequency of meetings was agreed on the basis that an independent Chair and additional meetings could both be reinstated at the agreement of the group should the need arise in the future. The agreement was also on the basis of a note to inform the planning committee of the change and the community being informed of any potential developments in the area which may lead to an intensification of quarrying activity.