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Date : 25 June 2015

Dear Isabelle Hadow,

**Re: Eastwick & Gilston and Hunsdon Parishes Neighbourhood Plan Area
Consultation**

I am writing in response to the consultation regarding Eastwick & Gilston and Hunsdon Parish Councils' application for the designation of a Neighbourhood Plan Area to provide comments in relation to minerals and waste planning matters.

In terms of minerals matters, the proposed Neighbourhood Plan Area contains a sand and gravel quarry at Pole Hole. Pole Hole is identified by Policy 3 of the existing Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan as a site which should be used to meet the county's need for land-won aggregate. The site has ceased extracting material and is in the late stages of restoration. The county council is responsible for minerals and waste development, any further details of this applications and historic landfill data can be provided during the Neighbourhood Plan preparation.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan Area falls within the sand and gravel belt. The county council, as Minerals Planning Authority (MPA) would raise concerns for any unnecessary sterilisation of minerals from non-mineral development. When areas for development are identified during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan the county council should be consulted so that further detailed comments can be provided in relation to minerals.

The proposed Neighbourhood Plan Area does not contain any of the county council's Allocate Waste Sites as shown in the Waste Site allocations (adopted June 2014) document and does not contain any safeguarded waste operations.

Although Neighbourhood Plans cannot include policies that cover minerals or waste development, it should be noted that when the Parish Council develops its vision

and objectives for shaping development and growth, minerals and waste matters will need to be taken into account as Minerals and Waste Local Plans form part of the Development Plan. As outlined above, this particular proposed Neighbourhood Plan Area contains an existing site relating to the county council responsibilities and therefore the county council would like to be consulted at future stages in the production of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely

David Hodbod

Planning Officer - Minerals and Waste Policy