

2) Dragonby and Santon underground mines - inert non domestic waste

13.18 Government guidance in PPG23 places greater emphasis on the reduction, re-use and recovery of waste rather than simple disposal without recovery. Guidance also promotes the 'proximity principle' which aims to ensure that the majority of waste is disposed of within the region of generation. Given the outstanding nature conservation, recreational and leisure potential of both the naturally regenerated and existing despoiled gullets and also the existing capacity of gullets with waste tipping planning consents, no further consents will be granted except for that area required to stabilise Dragonby Village and those areas required by British Steel plc for the disposal of works waste.

13.19 Planning consent will only be granted for the tipping of waste, particularly in underground mines, following consultation with Anglian Water and the Environment Agency to ensure that tipping does not result in the contamination of aquifers and other water sources.

Mineral Extraction

13.20 The Ironstone Gullets area contains existing reserves of both ironstone and oil.

IG9 - Ironstone Extraction

The area to the east of Yarborough Gullet will be safeguarded from development which would result in the sterilisation of the ironstone reserves

13.21 While no ironstone is being extracted at present, working in the long term could recommence should international ore market conditions change. The substantial remaining ore reserves,

although largely located below agricultural land, will need to be safeguarded from any future potentially sterilising development.

IG10 - Oil Extraction

Proposals for oil extraction at Crosby Warren (part) will be permitted provided that there will be no adverse impact on the surrounding landscape.

13.22 Oil is extracted in part of the Crosby Warren area and three boreholes have been sunk and are currently in commercial production. It is important that any future boreholes do not have an unacceptable impact on the surrounding landscape of the gullets area and are located in the least environmentally sensitive areas. Where planning consent is granted for future exploratory boreholes or oil production facilities the Council will seek to ensure that planning conditions are implemented to mitigate any adverse effects upon the landscape and ecology of the area.

Unstable Land

13.23 The open cast extraction of ironstone in some gullets has in the past created problems of agricultural land subsidence immediately adjacent to the affected open cast area. Planning consent for the tipping of waste into these gullets has previously been approved in order to alleviate this problem. However, with the exception of the small area at Dragonby Ponds, those gullets susceptible to significant land subsidence are operational as waste tips and infilling of other gullets is not necessary.

13.24 The cessation of underground ironstone extraction at Dragonby and Santon mines has caused land subsidence problems in the form of crown holes occurring at the surface.